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## Major cover-up of drop in reserves

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

A bookkeeping maneuver helped the Finance Ministry to cover up part of last month's drop in foreign-currency reserves, which may have actually totalled at least \$676 million. According to the official statistics released two weeks ago, the reserves plunged by some \$351 million last month.

The bookkeeping maneuver accounts for the \$325m. difference between the two figures. But U.S. officials told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the actual drop in reserves may have totalled more than \$700m., and that other moves were also used to cover the real losses.

Bank of Israel officials said the \$676m. figure should be regarded as "hypothetical," since the Treasury and the bank would have used other means of raising foreign currency if no such maneuver had been available. In the past the Treasury has raised short-term loans abroad every time it wanted to conceal a large drop in reserves.

The officials added that one

reason for the relatively large fall in reserves was the repayment of maturing long-term loans taken from the U.S. During the last two months large repayments of loans granted to Israel in 1974 were made. But the officials added that the drop was also caused by the public's heavy demand for dollars and election eve expectations of a pending devaluation.

The Bank of Israel's July financial report, published this week, shows a \$338 million drop in the commercial banks' liquidity deposits of money from non-residents' foreign currency (*patash*) accounts. But the central bank said the figure does not mean that non-residents are now saving less foreign currency in Israeli banks — but that the banks are now required to deposit less of this money in the Bank of Israel for liquidity purposes.

The change in requirements allowed the banks to move \$325 m. of their money from the Bank of Israel to the Treasury's accountant-general.

In the second stage of the book-

(Continued on Page 13)

## IAF hits terror base

By HIRSH GOODMAN  
Post Defence Correspondent

Israel Air Force planes yesterday attacked a major training facility operated by the Abu Musa faction of the PLO near Bar Elias in eastern Lebanon. Two buildings were destroyed in the attack and, according to Radio Lebanon last night, casualties were reported to be heavy. No figures were given.

The Israeli attack, the 13th this year, came several hours after Abu Musa said at a press conference in Sutura yesterday that his organization was responsible for placing a car bomb in downtown Jerusalem on Wednesday morning. He said that the bomb was meant to destroy Herut Party headquarters.

The Israeli Defence Forces spokesman said the base attacked in

the northern Bekaa Valley yesterday afternoon served as a regional headquarters and point of departure for terrorists. All the aircraft that took part in the attack returned safely to base, the spokesman said.

The Abu Musa faction of the PLO is Syrian-controlled, and came into being after the expulsion of Yasser Arafat from Tripoli 10 months ago. Abu Musa led the revolt against Arafat, and two days ago announced that his organization had made plans to hit "targets in Israel and the occupied territories."

The Christian-controlled Voice of Lebanon radio station said that the bombing raid was preceded by a series of Israeli reconnaissance flights over the area, some of which drew anti-aircraft ground fire over

(Continued on Page 13)

## Histadrut promises fight against change in C-o-L pact

By ROY ISACOWITZ  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Histadrut Trade Union Department chairman Haim Haberfeld yesterday issued a blunt warning to Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Oragad not to tamper with the cost-of-living increment system. The warning, delivered at the signing of the latest cost-of-living agreement, followed the finance minister's recent threats of a unilateral alteration of wage agreements, among them the C-o-L increment agreement.

"If the government attempts to alter the cost of living agreement it will be a bitter mistake on its part, and the Histadrut will fight without compromise," Haberfeld said.

The agreement signed yesterday between Haberfeld and the Manufacturers Association's Uzi Natanel, representing the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations, provides for the payment of a 9.9 per cent C-o-L increment up to a ceiling of IS258,808. The increment, calculated at 80 per cent of July's 12.4 per cent rise in the consumer price index, will be paid with this month's salaries at the beginning of next month.

Most of the increment will have been eroded by the time it is paid, due to the prevailing high rate of inflation, and the government's failure this month to revise tax brackets upwards in accordance with the increase in the consumer price index. Though the law only provides for revision every three months, in practice the government has partially revised the tax brackets monthly for the past few months.

Haberfeld stressed yesterday that the Histadrut will continue its efforts to have the monthly 100 per cent revision of tax brackets included as part of the C-o-L mechanism.

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Haberfeld stressed yesterday that the Histadrut will continue its efforts to have the monthly 100 per cent revision of tax brackets included as part of the C-o-L mechanism.



Two British frogmen, one wearing a keffiyeh, receive cables from the sailor at left as they attach them to a buoyed metal mine-hunting device near the Adabiya naval base, Suez, yesterday. The frogmen are working beside the Oil Endeavour, the British support ship for the four mine sweepers that are part of a multinational team clearing the Red Sea of mines. The British ships will be working in the northern part of the sea. See story Page 2.

(UPI telephoto)

## Hammer: NRP for unity gov't even if Mapam quits

By DAVID LANDAU  
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer of the National Religious Party said yesterday his proposal for rotation of the premiership in a unity government was valid even if Mapam were to secede from the Alignment and the Likud remained the largest faction.

Nor should a Mapam defection predetermine who should serve first as prime minister in a rotating premiership. Hammer said in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*: An "objective way" of resolving the who-first problem should be devised, Hammer said.

One possibility, he suggested,

(Continued on Page 13)



Zevulun Hammer

## Arens raps media 'distortion' in coverage of Lebanon

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Defence Minister Moshe Arens yesterday charged that the communications media are providing what he termed "distorted" reports on developments in South Lebanon, which he said was making it more difficult to wage the campaign there.

Addressing the 31 officers and civilians who were graduated from the National Defence College near Tel Aviv, Arens implied that he may bar Israeli journalists from Lebanon unless their reports satisfy him. But the defence minister did not go so far as to make the threat explicit.

"Our television brings the war into our living rooms practically every day. If the reports are accurate, objective, I would say there is no reason not to bring them into the living room. But if the reports are distorted, if they do not reflect the truth or the whole truth — this makes

the campaign that much more difficult," he stated.

Arens noted that following the U.S. experience with the news media in Vietnam, the British had barred the press during the invasion of the Falkland Islands, and the U.S. did the same when it invaded the Caribbean island of Grenada.

"We are not barring our news media from getting to the front, to the campaign, to the soldiers and the officers. But we are reminding the media," the defence minister said, "that incorrect reports, distorted reports, make the campaign difficult."

Complaining that there have been "too many cases" of baseless reports, Arens said that some six months ago TV reported the government was about to decide on a redeployment in Lebanon that would include a partial withdrawal. Arens said the authorities had denied the

(Continued on Page 13)

## Labour: Levy is obstacle to unity government

By ROY ISACOWITZ  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Amid a welter of recriminations between the Alignment and the Likud yesterday, Deputy Prime Minister David Levy — according to Alignment negotiators — emerged as the prime obstacle to the establishment of a national unity government.

Knesset Member Gad Ya'acobi, leader of the Alignment's economic negotiating team, said that the attitude adopted by Levy at Wednesday's meeting with the Likud's economic team was "not very positive."

By comparison, Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Oragad and Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i had been positive in their approach, he said.

Members of the Alignment's foreign policy negotiating team that met with the Likud on Wednesday evening were even harsher in their criticism of the deputy prime minister. They

One went as far as to describe Levy as "obstreperous."

The consensus in the Alignment is that Levy is trying to drag out the negotiations until the end of the week, when prime minister-designate Shimon Peres's 21 days of coalition-building efforts are up. However, there is little doubt in the Alignment that he will be granted another 21 days by President Chaim Herzog.

Alignment sources pointed out yesterday that Levy had been instrumental in the failure of the pre-



David Levy

vious national unity effort last September, when Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was given the mandate to form a government. They speculated that "personal ambition" lay behind Levy's apparent diehard opposition to a unity government.

Interviewed on Israel Television last night, the Alignment's Yitzhak Rabin accused the Likud of trying to ignore the law by failing to recognize that Peres was the prime minister-designate. Instead, he said, the Likud was playing for time, in the hope that they would eventually be asked to head the government.

On the same programme, Justice Minister Moshe Nissim evaded answering Rabin's allegations that

this was the chief stumbling block in the talks. He denied that the Likud was stalling and said the main obstacle was the Alignment's insistence on discussing the "irrelevant" issue of Jordanian participation in peace talks without prior terms. He also accused the Alignment of continuing to negotiate as if they had Mapam's backing.

Levy himself denied yesterday that he was an obstacle to the formation of a unity government. He told a Kol Yisrael interviewer that his opposition to proposals presented by the Alignment was based on "matters of substance" and that he supported a national unity government.

However, Levy said, the Alignment was attempting to pressure the Likud into accepting the Alignment's foreign-policy platform *in toto*, which was unacceptable. "Both sides have to make special efforts in the coming days, and both sides will have to make compromises," he said. He accused the Alignment of hardening the original positions it presented at the King David "summit" last week.

Regarding the question of another 21 days for Peres, Levy said that the president had full authority in the matter, and that the Likud would respect his decision. He did not say whether the Likud would ask Herzog not to grant Peres a further period.

Despite the recriminations, the

(Continued on Page 13)

## Labour, NRP agree on settlement policy

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The first significant ideological breakthrough of the coalition negotiations was achieved yesterday, when Alignment and National Religious Party negotiating teams agreed on a formula for settlement in Judea and Samaria. The formula will now be presented to party bodies for approval.

The three-part formula was agreed on during a negotiating session on the settlement question. The formula says that existing settlements in "agreed-on" security areas will be strengthened and new settlements established there. In areas over which there is disagreement, new settlements will be created by

the cabinet at the recommendation of at least one third of the members of the Ministerial Settlement Committee.

The third clause guarantees the "existence and security" of all existing settlements.

While the formula may prove to be acceptable to both parties, its papers over many of their disagreements. Alignment negotiator Knesset Member Arvi Nehorai conceded that "each side has its own idea on which areas are security areas." NRP negotiators spoke of channelling to future settlement the same funds that they receive today, a conclusion unacceptable to the Alignment.

NRP sources yesterday tried to allay concern that the party was negotiating independently with the Alignment for the establishment of a narrow government. They stressed that the formula was a statement of "principles" that would be applied by a national unity government.

Despite the NRP's disclaimers, the agreement in principle was strongly condemned by Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman and Tehiya MK Eliezer Waldman. Ne'eman described it as a "sell-out," and said that the NRP had put a "knife in the back of the settlers and the national camp." Waldman said it "cuts the heart of the country into holy and less-holy pieces."

## Bank director admits misjudging extent of inflation

The banks failed for years to realize that inflation was a long-term and increasing phenomenon in the economy, chiefly because bank directors accepted the assurance of finance minister Yoram Aridor that it would end.

This admission by Raphael Recanat, chairman and general manager of Bank Discount, is made in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* reporter Pinhas Landau, published on page 7 today.

In a wide-ranging discussion, Recanat explains the background to the banks' problems and what they are doing to overcome them, and predicts what lies ahead for the economy. The streamlining being instituted in Bank Discount and the other banks is a prototype of what other sectors will have to undertake to regain their economic health, Recanat believes.

## Hospitals cut use of costly drugs

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Health Ministry this week ordered all government hospitals to take special steps to reduce the use of expensive antibiotics and to use, whenever possible, cheaper preparations.

Dr. Moshe Matzliach, Hospital Services director of the Health Ministry, in a letter to the government hospitals, listed some 22 antibiotic preparations whose use is now

to be restricted to special cases only. The drugs will be available only through the hospital pharmacy and only by a prescription signed by the attending physician, the head of the department and the head of the hospital's drug committee.

Drug costs are also becoming a problem for the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit sick fund and although no official directives have been made public, expensive anti-rheumatics and antibiotics are simply not available at most clinics. If the patient feels the drug is really necessary he must go to a larger clinic to get the prescription filled. In some cases this takes trips to several clinics, or the patient in the end buys the medicine from a commercial pharmacist rather than waste more time and energy.

Health Ministry sources explained that drugs account for half the money expended in the hospital service and that many of the imported

drugs (and some of those locally produced) are very expensive.

Drugs in Israel are in general expensive in comparison with world prices, costing at least twice and in many cases as much as three times their dollar price in the country of their origin.

Even European drugs exported to both the U.S. and to Israel retail in Israel for more than twice the retail price in the U.S. For instance Ciba-Geigy products manufactured in Switzerland are twice as costly in Israel as in the U.S. and almost three times more than in Japan.

Although both the Health Ministry and Kupat Holim have purchasing agents abroad that arrange their drug imports, the local agent for the drug, who has an exclusive agency still gets a commission on purchases made directly.

All other drugs are imported through the exclusive agents, and although the Health Ministry allows a 30 per cent mark up to the agent and an additional 29 per cent to the pharmacy, these mark ups are figured on a base line as represented by the agent's invoice. Many sources in the ministry and in the pharmacies say that these invoices are already padded and do not represent the price actually paid for the drug.

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## Dan rapped for firing women drivers

By YITZHAK OKED  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Histadrut is to ask the regional labour court on Sunday for an injunction against the firing of about 30 women drivers by the Dan bus cooperative.

The drivers were informed this week that their work with the cooperative will end on September 2. Two of the women said they were told that they were being fired because another driver, Mazal Hazan, had gone to the labour court to fight her dismissal. The firm reportedly dismisses its women drivers as a matter of course before they can receive tenure.

Until Hazan's case is heard, the court issued an injunction against Dan staying her dismissal. The bus cooperative, however, is believed to have subsequently decided to fire all its other women drivers to ensure that they, too, would not go to court. No comment from any Dan source was available yesterday.

Aliza Tamir, chairwoman of the department for hired women workers at the Histadrut and a member of the Histadrut Central Committee,



Aliza Tamir

told The Jerusalem Post that Dan is illegally discriminating against women.

"For years both Egged and Dan have been hiring women drivers and firing them just before they can receive tenure," she said. "According to the law a hired worker must receive tenure after no more than 33 months of work. These women are usually fired before the 33 months and then rehired a few days later."

Tamir said she would not rest until the bus cooperative stopped such discrimination.

Tamir told The Jerusalem Post that she is planning a protest cam-

paign against Dan that will include buttons distributed to passengers saying: "I'm riding this bus under protest against the fact that women are not being given equal opportunity."

Uri Eidelman, national inspector for training of workers in transportation at the Transport Ministry, told The Jerusalem Post that the firings by Dan could have serious repercussions during emergencies.

Eidelman said that more than 1,000 women have taken bus-driving courses so that they may be mobilized in times of emergency. But some of these women have already warned that they will refuse to drive buses during emergencies if women are discriminated against by the cooperatives in normal times.

Haim Haberfeld, head of the Histadrut trade union department, said that they were against discrimination on grounds of sex, but according to information he had received Dan had fired the women in accordance with its labour contract. Nevertheless, he added, his department is trying to get Dan to reverse its decision.



Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy awards the Gadna Medal to Liat Savidosh of San Jose, California. Savidosh was one of the outstanding Gadna youth who received awards during the closing ceremony of the Gadna-Jewish Agency Hetz Vakeshet summer programme for young people from abroad, held Wednesday at the Western Wall.

(IDF spokesman)

## K. Ata strike in 2nd week, no solution seen

By DAVID RUDGE  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The strike by Kiryat Ata's 600 municipal workers is entering its second week with no sign of a solution, mayor Ya'acov Ben-Daniel told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

The National Insurance Institute and tax authorities have served attachment orders on the town for non-payment of debts. It is feared that electricity supplies and telephone service may soon be discontinued.

The town's debts total more than

IS600 million, but the Interior Ministry has offered to foot only IS50m. The ministry has accused the previous administration of mismanaging the town's affairs.

Ben-Daniel said that since taking office last November, he had instituted sweeping changes to streamline services and dismissed more than 100 workers.

The employees began their strike nine days ago, after being told that the municipal council could not pay their July salaries.

Ben-Daniel said that many of the workers were now in dire financial straits and unable to get further loans from their banks to tide them over. "The Interior Ministry is investigating, but I have still not heard anything definite and with every day that passes, the situation worsens," he said.

Meanwhile, the Haifa Labour Council has warned that it will not stand idly by. It has threatened to call sympathy strikes of other municipal workers in the district unless the Kiryat Ata employees are paid.

## Home treatment for cancer patients

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Doctors and nurses specializing in oncology are this month inaugurating home care to 141 cancer patients in the Petah Tikva area as part of an experimental programme aimed at bringing medical care to the patient.

Kupat Holim Clalit announced this week that the programme has been initiated because chemotherapy leaves many cancer patients too

weak and ill to take advantage of the care offered at hospital.

The health fund's spokesman said that the programme is succeeding and may even represent a savings in money and personnel. Among services given are checkups, taking of blood samples and administration of medicines.

The programme is to be extended to other areas in the near future.

## A-G given time to study request for Baranes retrial

The Supreme Court yesterday granted the attorney-general three more months to submit an opinion on a request for a retrial by Amos Baranes. Baranes was convicted in 1976 of the murder of soldier Rachel Heller and sentenced to life imprisonment, but was released from prison last August after being pardoned by President Chaim Herzog.

Baranes, whose case stirred national controversy, confessed to the murder and even re-enacted it, but alleged in his trial — and ever since — that police investigators beat the confession out of him and staged the re-enactment.

Appeals against Baranes' conviction and requests for new trial were rejected in 1976 and 1978. But a report by Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp, written more than three years ago, called for a retrial. In the wake of Karp's report, the chief investigator in the Baranes case, former chief superintendent Shaul Marcus was convicted of perjury himself in the murder trial, but the Jerusalem District Court's conviction was overturned by the Supreme Court.

Represented by advocates Shlomo Toussia-Cohen and Itamar Hacohen, Baranes submitted another request two and a half months ago for a new trial. The attorney-general normally gives a legal opinion on such requests, but the attorney-general's office told the court that it had not yet been able to gather and examine the huge amount of material in the case.

## Court awards land to state, not Beduin

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — The Supreme Court last week upheld an earlier decision by the district court here that thousands of dunams of land in the Negev belong to the state, and not to the Beduin who have traditionally grazed their flocks there.

The court battle began ten years ago, when the Beduin decided to contest the state title to the lands. The government cited Ottoman laws which state that "dead" (mawat) lands belong to the state.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court based its decision on the 1858 Ottoman law, which in turn is based on the laws formulated by the nineteenth-century Moslem lawmaker Abu-Khanifa.

"The decision has caused quite a stir among the Negev Beduin," said Nissim Kazaz, the local adviser on Arab affairs. "Now they are sorry they did not accept our compromise proposal several months ago, by which they would have been able to settle in towns and receive very generous compensation. We didn't want this to deteriorate into a battle between the government and the Beduin."

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## Slayer of lesbian lover sentenced to life

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A woman who murdered her former lesbian lover last October was convicted of the crime yesterday by the Tel Aviv District Court and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The indictment accused Michal Elkayam, 26, of Tel Aviv, of luring Batsheva Hazan to the city's deserted new central bus station on the pretext of sharing some heroin, but with the intention of killing her over a romantic dispute involving their own relationship and other women.

In an empty room there, Elkayam attacked Hazan with her fists, beating her to the floor. Then Elkayam picked up a large piece of concrete and struck Hazan twice on her head, killing her. Elkayam then stripped her victim's body — pocketing Hazan's money and jewelry — and dumped it down a 15-metre elevator shaft.

The prosecution's case was based

on Elkayam's confession and filmed reconstruction of the crime, plus the fact that it was Elkayam who phoned the police two weeks after the murder to tell them where to find Hazan's body. Elkayam told the court she did so because her conscience bothered her and she wanted Hazan to have a proper burial.

However, at one point in the proceedings Elkayam argued that she had been under the influence of drugs when she killed Hazan. Accordingly, her attorney asked the charge to be reduced from murder to manslaughter.

Judges Shmuel Kvart, Ya'acov Kedmi and Edna Shatzky rejected her claim, taking note particularly of one passage from Elkayam's police statement: "I gave it to her twice on the head, on her face, her nose and mouth. And then I saw her eyes roll upward. I undressed her so she'd think she was raped."

## VD detection kits designed by BGU

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Bioram Ltd., a subsidiary of Kial Industries Ltd., is to begin production in October of a medical kit designed at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev that quickly detects the presence of a venereal disease.

The plant will produce kits for the detection of bacteria called Chlamydia trachomatis, which is transmitted sexually and is responsible for many pelvic diseases in women, genital

infection in men, and cases of infertility, and possibly cervical cancer.

In the U.S. three million cases of Chlamydia infection are diagnosed every year. Doctors say that many infants are infected from their mothers during birth and may suffer pneumonia or blindness as a result.

The kits, which will be made mainly for export, allow for diagnosis within two hours rather than the week or more now required. The plant will employ 20-30 workers.

## Giant crane rescues yacht in sea off TA

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A giant crane lifted a yacht out of the sea off Tel Aviv yesterday afternoon to keep it from sinking after it had gone aground. The yacht, called Form, flying the British flag, went aground late Wednesday evening at the entrance to the marina.

With the help of police boats, tugs and cranes, the yacht was refloated, but ran aground again when it tried to enter the marina once more. But this time, the police boats and tugs couldn't get the Form sailing again, and the giant crane was called in when the vessel began sinking.

## Tax-evasion suspects out on IS1.5 million bail

Three contractors suspected of tax evasion were released on bail yesterday by the Jerusalem Magistrates Court judge.

A'bed Mustafa and A'bed Shehadeh, both USfya building contractors, are suspected of having done construction work worth \$150,000 in the last five years without keeping books or registering with the Value

Added Tax authorities. Ibrahim Ja'abar of Abu Ghosh, who contracts for development work and transport of passengers, is suspected of failing to report income of more than IS1 million.

The judge ordered the three released on IS1.5 million bail each on condition that they report for interrogation on request of the police.

## 'Blackest week in years' for Haifa road fatalities

Jerusalem Post Staff

HAIFA. — A 74-year-old Kiryat Ata woman who died yesterday evening in Haifa's Rambam Hospital after being struck by a car became the Haifa area's eighth traffic fatality of the week.

Announcing Birta David's death, the police spokesman said that Haifa had experienced "one of its blackest weeks in years" in terms of traffic accidents, and appealed to both drivers and pedestrians to exercise more caution.

Five of the eight persons killed on the roads this week were pedestrians, he added. Birta David was struck by an automobile on Wednesday as she was crossing the Kiryat Ata-Shafaram Road. She was rushed to Rambam Hospital, and succumbed to her injuries late yesterday.

In a similar case, 81-year-old Batsheva Kabbal was struck by a van as she stepped between parked cars on Rehov Hagallil near her home in Kiryat Bialik. She was rushed to Rambam Hospital, but died of her injuries there.

The police are asking persons who saw the accident, which happened about 9 p.m., to report to them. The van driver was questioned but later released.

Earlier the same night a motorist and his passenger were killed when their vehicle collided with a semi-trailer on the old Haifa-Tel Aviv

road near the Caesarea junction. The deceased were identified yesterday as Yehuda Ben-Zaken, 28, and Herman Adi, 11, both of Mitze Katzir.

One person was killed and two were seriously injured in an automobile accident outside the Western Galilee village of Makar yesterday. The injured were taken to the government hospital at Nahariya, and the police are investigating the cause of the accident.

A young cyclist and his girlfriend were seriously injured when they were hit by a car while riding along Rehov HaRav Reines in Kiryat Haim just after midnight on Wednesday. They were taken to hospital, but their names have not been released.

The police spokesman said the driver failed to stop at the scene but he was later spotted by a police patrol and questioned. The driver and a passenger in his car both suffered slight injuries.

In another accident yesterday morning on the Kiryat Ata-Shafaram road, a woman pedestrian was hit by a car and seriously injured. No details have been released.

Five persons were injured yesterday afternoon when the car they were riding in overturned on the road six kilometres south of Beersheba and spun into a ditch. The five were taken to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital, and the police are investigating.

## Court increases wife stabber's jail term

The Supreme Court on Wednesday increased the jail sentence of a man who stabbed his wife after the state appealed the decision of the Haifa District Court.

In September 1983, Ishak Michaelshvili stabbed his wife while she slept in her bed, cutting into her stomach, liver, intestines and back. A section of her large intestine was removed during an operation and she recovered with great difficulty.

The district court sentenced Michaelshvili to four years in jail, two of them suspended. The court

said the sentence was meant to deter other potential wife beaters, but also took into consideration that Michaelshvili had been confined in a mental institution. He had been diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, but had been released after treatment.

Assistant State Attorney Dorit Benish appealed the sentence on the grounds that the punishment did not fit such a serious crime. The Supreme Court accepted her argument and increased Michaelshvili's jail term to six years, two of them suspended for three years.

## Man gets 4 years in jail for assaults on boys

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A man from Kalkiya was convicted by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday of committing sodomy and other indecent acts on two boys from Ramat Hasharon aged 12 and 14. The defendant, Maisoun Sharim, 24, was sentenced to four years in prison.

The crimes, committed during 1982, came to light when the father of one of the boys found his son playing with a switchblade knife.

When the father asked where the knife came from, the boy told him he had received it from Sharim, a worker at a nearby farm. Questioned further by his father, the boy revealed that Sharim had committed sodomy on him.

The second boy told the court that he had been attracted to Sharim when he heard the man playing a shepherd's flute. But then Sharim seduced him, the boy said.

## Masked robbers empty TA 'Luna Park' safe

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Two masked robbers tied up a Luna Park employee with his own shirt early yesterday morning, opened the safe with the keys they found in his pocket, and fled after emptying the safe of its contents. It is not yet

known how much they got away with.

The employee freed himself after an hour, and then telephoned his employer who called the police. The Luna Park is in the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds.

## Associate publisher of Hadassah Magazine arrives in Israel

Nancy Margolis, associate publisher/advertising director of HADASSAH MAGAZINE will be in Israel August 17-26, meeting with the advertising and business community to present the demographic and consumer clout of the world's largest Jewish magazine. Ms. Margolis has a 15-year career in advertising, marketing and promotion. Her early career was spent with leading U.S. ad agencies. For seven years she served as a vice-president of the advertising firm representing all U.S. Jewish media including HADASSAH MAGAZINE. She is a life member of Hadassah, a member of Advertising Women of New York and is affiliated with the Magazine Publishers Association and the American Jewish Press Association. Her educational background is in graphic design and English literature.

With its September issue, HADASSAH MAGAZINE is introducing a streamlined designer look. It is an 80 page issue with 30 pages of advertising, edited by Alan M. Tigay. The distinguished publication carries a great deal of material devoted to Israel. Ms. Margolis will review the editorial contents and discuss special projects like a high-tech issue, coverage of the Israel film festival in December, the Jerusalem issue in May, and her ideas for increasing purchases of Israeli consumer products advertising in the publication.

She will also tour the country and Hadassah projects accompanied by her husband Paul, a vice-president of BBDO, the sixth largest international ad agency in the world.

Ms. Margolis can be reached by messages through the Hadassah Council in Israel. Tel. 02-231411/2/3

(Continued)

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## Following Afghan raids

## Pakistan asks rebels to move away from city

ISLAMABAD. — Pakistan said yesterday it had given Afghan guerrilla organizations an ultimatum to leave Peshawar, capital of the frontier province bordering Afghanistan.

Pakistan wants the headquarters of the Afghanistan resistance organizations shifted outside the limits of the crowded city, a Foreign Office spokesman said.

Two days after Afghan air attacks 100 kilometres from Peshawar that killed 15 persons, the spokesman described resistance in Afghanistan as entirely indigenous.

Guerrilla sources said the government had agreed to help shift about seven organizations' headquarters outside Peshawar before August 31. "The organizations have agreed to the proposal but it will take some time," the sources said.

Pakistan's military government earlier strongly protested against the two Afghan air raids, summoning the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad to the Foreign Ministry to be informed it will not tolerate "wanton bombing" of its territory.

A ministry spokesman in the capital said on Wednesday that such incidents, which have numbered nearly 500 since 1980, could adversely affect upcoming talks on Afghanistan that the United Nations is arranging in Geneva.

The August 24 talks between Pakistan and the Soviet-backed Kabul government, headed by Babrak Karmal, are part of a two-year effort to hammer out a political solution to the crisis triggered by the December 1979 Soviet military intervention of the landlocked central Asian country. (AP, Reuters)

## 'Marxists' blamed for Sri Lanka violence

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP). — President Junius Jayewardene's government blamed "extremists" and "Marxists" in the army yesterday for recent military attacks on the Tamil minority.

Meanwhile, at least 14 suspected Tamil separatists were arrested in army sweeps through Sri Lanka's violence-battered northern province, according to government officials here who asked not to be identified.

Information Minister Anandadasa de Alwis told foreign reporters that indiscriminate was not widespread in the ranks and would be tackled without damaging army morale.

He said leftist elements had "infiltrated" the military and accused an outlawed group of instigating army violence.

Army troops went on a rampage early this week in and around Mannar, 250 kilometres north of Colombo. They set fire to Tamil shops and homes, looted property and killed five civilians in reprisal for a guerrilla ambush of an army convoy.

Earlier, in the nearby town of Valvetiturai, navy and army troops attacked many Tamil houses and shops. Government sources said troops opened indiscriminate fire on civilians at two places near Jaffna city this week.

The cabinet spokesman said the government planned to give up to \$2,000 in compensation to each Mannar resident whose property was burned by rioting soldiers.

Militant leaders of India's 55 million Tamil community have demanded that India intervene militarily to stop army atrocities in Sri Lanka. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has rejected the suggestion.

The main hospital in Jaffna has many patients who said they were shot at random by rifle-toting troops.

## Offshore oil well fire leads to death of 31

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP). — Fire broke out early yesterday on an offshore oil drilling platform, and at least 31 persons drowned when a lifeboat capsized during evacuation of the workers, the state oil company reported.

Petrobras, the oil company, said in a statement that a gas leak at 3:30 a.m. sparked two successive fires on the main drilling platform at the Enchova oil field.

Firefighting boats were still battling the blaze several hours later, the company said.

The deaths occurred when a lifeboat overturned in heavy seas while evacuating workers from the platform. The number of people aboard the boat or the platform was not immediately known.

## Prince Andrew's Koo Stark weds millionaire

LONDON (AP). — American-born actress Koo Stark, former girlfriend of Prince Andrew, has married Timothy Jefferies, an heir to the £50 million Green Shield trading-stamp empire.

The wedding took place here Wednesday. Stark, 28, who once starred in soft-pornography movies, created world headlines when she and Andrew, 24, slipped out of Britain under false names in October 1982 to vacation together on the Caribbean island of Mustique.

## Who's doing what and why in the Gulf of Suez

CAIRO (AP). — The mining of the Red Sea has become a deadly real-life mystery — complete with a lineup of suspects and victims, a tangle of possible motives and a team of sea-borne sleuths looking for clues.

Of prime importance: finding one of the mines that have been scattered in waters stretching from the Suez Canal 2,620 kilometres through the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. A multinational naval force, including British mine-hunters and U.S. helicopters, is conducting the search.

Once a mine is retrieved, investigators might be able to determine who made, bought or planted it.

Only one party has claimed responsibility — a pro-Iranian group calling itself Islamic Jihad (holy war), which says its operatives sowed 192 mines. It also threatens further actions.

There are indications that the Red Sea devices are primitively made, so it is not considered impossible that a terrorist organization built and placed them.

Speculation and accusation otherwise focus on Iran and Libya. Each has possible motives for the Red Sea

sabotage, but both deny involvement.

The series of explosions began July 9, when a Soviet container ship was damaged shortly after clearing the southern end of the Suez Canal. Since then, at least 15 other ships have been damaged by mines, which appear not to have been very powerful.

Seven countries border the Red Sea — Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, North and South Yemen and Saudi Arabia. But the Egyptians may be the most concerned.

Not only are they responsible for the security of traffic through the canal, but they also derive considerable revenue from it — the equivalent of \$1.1 billion last year in canal transit tolls.

The canal board chairman, Ezzat Adel, says the mining has affected canal shipping volume, which had been averaging 37 ships per month. He supplied no updated figures, however.

Saudi Arabia also depends on the Red Sea lanes. It exports one million barrels of crude oil a day, about one fifth its total production, from a pipeline that terminates in the Red

Sea port of Yanbu. Jordan and Israel also use the Red Sea, through the connecting Gulf of Aqaba.

Both Saudi Arabia and Egypt are vulnerable because the sea is a major route for their religious pilgrims. More than 25,000 Egyptians began crossing the sea last week to the Saudi port at Jidda, gateway to the holy city of Mecca. The Egyptian navy is providing escorts.

Egyptian Premier Kamal Hassan Ali has suggested the Iranians might be laying the mines to retaliate for the disruption of Iranian oil exports by the Persian Gulf war, and to punish Egypt and Saudi Arabia for their support of Iraq in the 46-month-old conflict.

Egypt is said by diplomatic sources to have furnished Iraq with more than \$1 billion worth of arms, and tens of thousands of Egyptian workers underpin the Iraqi economy.

The Saudis, for their part, have quietly poured billions of dollars into the Iraqi war effort against Iran, whose Islamic revolutionary fervour is regarded as a threat to the Arab monarchies of the Gulf region.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak

has pointed the finger of blame at Egypt's neighbour Libya. Gaddafi supports the Iranians in their war against Iraq.

But Libya has consistently denied a role in the Red Sea mining.

East-West tensions may be heightened by the response by four western countries — the U.S., France, Britain and Italy — to Egypt's request for help in countering the mining. Already the Soviet Union has accused Washington of profiting from the situation by increasing its military presence in the Middle East.

But for once, the interest of East and West coincide to a great degree.

The Suez Canal and the Red Sea are commercially important for both, and, from a military point of view, both the Soviet Union and the major western powers need the waterways to support their Indian Ocean fleets.

The Soviet Union has not announced any plans to participate in the multinational minesweeping operation, but U.S. defence department spokesman Michael Burch, asked about the possibility, said any help would be welcomed.

## Indian politician's arrest blows up crisis

NEW DELHI (Reuters). — India's flamboyant film star politician N.T. Rama Rao was sacked and briefly arrested inside Government House yesterday plunging the nation into a new political crisis ahead of national elections.

Rao, chief minister of southern Andhra Pradesh state, and seven opposition political party leaders, were arrested during a row about his sacking earlier yesterday by state governor Ram Lal.

Rao accused Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of engineering his dismissal as part of her strategy for general elections which must be held in the next five months.

He said in a statement Gandhi planned to "topple" all state governments which were not ruled by her Congress (I) Party to give her a powerful base on which to fight the election.

The former film star, who wears an earring and necklace, was arrested when he and the other politicians tried to stop the governor from swearing in Rao's Finance Minister Bhaskara Rao as the state's chief minister with the backing of Gandhi's party.

They were released after several hours and no charges were laid. Rao's dismissal followed the pattern of the sacking of Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farouq Abdullah last month.

Only six of India's 22 states — Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Tripura, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal — were ruled by non-Congress (I) parties before Abdullah's sacking.

The move against Rao started Wednesday, one day after his return from open-heart surgery in the U.S.

## Andrea Doria safe to be opened 'live'

NEW YORK (AP). — A safe pulled from the wreck of the Andrea Doria three years ago was due to be opened on live television early this morning.

Experts and passengers say there probably won't be anything of value inside. But Peter Gimbel, whose multimillion-dollar expedition came up with one of the luxury liner's 18 safes, is still hopeful.

There is "a rumour that won't die" that a consignment of precious stones was in one bank safe, said Gimbel, although he acknowledged

it was more likely he would recover "a lot of waterlogged paper."

Clive Cussler, an author and shipwreck hunter, agreed. "I doubt anything much will be found inside. Maybe a few soggy pieces of paper," he said.

The Italian liner went down on July 26, 1956, killing 46 of its 1,100 passengers. The ship took 11 hours to sink after colliding with the Swedish liner Stockholm in the Atlantic 64 km. south of the island of Nantucket in Massachusetts.

## Cubans said fortifying against 'U.S. invasion'

MEXICO CITY (AP). — The Cuban government is building an extensive network of trenches and fortifications to defend the Communist-ruled island against an invasion by U.S. forces, Cuba's Prensa Latina news agency said on Wednesday.

The dispatch from Havana, received here, said around 20,000 men and 21 per cent of the country's cement production are being used to construct the military fortifications.

The dispatch by commentator Eloy Concepcion said the aim is to establish "defence zones" that could be used in the event of a U.S. invasion.

"We Cubans have an objective: If the United States attacks, we aim to inflict more casualties on its forces than it suffered during World War II... We aim to bog the United States down, bringing it eventual defeat," said the dispatch.

## S. African bomb wounds 5 policemen

ROODEPOORT, South Africa (Reuters). — Five policemen were injured when a bomb exploded yesterday in police administration offices at Roodepoort on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Colonel Jaap Venter told Reuters the explosion occurred on the third floor of the office block, causing a fire that took an hour to extinguish.

Among those injured was Col. B.J. van den Berg, district commander for the eastern area of Soweto, the giant black township 10 kilometres south of Roodepoort.

QUAKES. — Two earthquakes shook the area around the southeast Iranian towns of Kerman and Sardasht in the country's West Azarbaijan province early yesterday, the Iranian national news agency Irna reported. No reports of damage or casualties were received.

## U.S. paying victims of Grenada invasion

ST. GEORGES, Grenada (Reuters). — The U.S. is paying about \$1.6 million in compensation for damage caused during its invasion of Grenada last year, a military spokesman said Wednesday.

A special claims office set up two months ago will distribute about \$1.6m. to nearly 700 claimants by the time it ceases operations on September 2, he said.

Those being compensated include the relatives of 18 persons who were killed when U.S. forces bombed a mental hospital during the assault on the island last October, the officer said.

Most of the money is going to people whose property was damaged in fighting between the U.S. troops and the Cuban-backed army of Grenada's ousted revolutionary government, he said.

## New test-tube baby technique in UK

LONDON (AP). — A team of British doctors has pioneered a test-tube baby technique to help some sterile men become fathers, officials said on Wednesday.

In London, a woman has become pregnant after an operation in which sperm was surgically extracted from her sterile husband, fertilized with eggs from her ovary in a glass dish and then implanted in her womb.

The new method is an extension of the successful test-tube technique previously used mainly for women with blocked fallopian tubes.

It is being developed at King's College Hospital in London and carried out on a number of couples who are unable to have children because the husband has a blocked vas deferens tube, the highly convoluted duct that conveys sperm from the testes.

The hospital's consultant obstetrician, Malcolm Whitehead, one of the leaders of the research team, said the woman is 10 weeks pregnant and, based on previous test-tube implants in infertile women, has a better than 60 per cent chance of delivering. The name of the woman has not been made public.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed," Whitehead told the Associated Press. "As far as we know, nobody has applied this technique, which brings very realistic hope to couples where there is very little hope offered."

Whitehead said men with a greatly reduced sperm count usually have sperm of good quality. In the past, most of the sperm was removed surgically and implanted directly in the womb, an operation that proved largely unsuccessful.

## Pakistani tanker attacked in Gulf

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP). — A Pakistani oil tanker, en route to Saudi Arabia's oil loading terminal at Ras Tanura, escaped an attack by an unidentified plane over Gulf waters, the Pakistani news agency reported yesterday.

The agency, monitored in Kuwait, said the 89,000-ton Johar was some

90km. northeast of Qatar, when the attack occurred, where Kuwaiti tankers were attacked by Iranian warplanes earlier this summer.

The Pakistani agency said two rockets were directed at the tanker by the unidentified plane, but it escaped and no damage was sustained.

## Violence puts pressure on British gov't

BELFAST (Reuters). — The British government was under growing pressure yesterday to appoint a new minister for Northern Ireland, where police fired at rioters for the second consecutive night.

The police fired several rounds of plastic bullets after being pelted with more than 70 petrol bombs in Strabane, a strongly republican town. No injuries were reported.

The previous night the police fired several rounds of the potentially lethal riot-control plastic bullets after coming under attack from football spectators during a match in Belfast.

The continuing violence in the British-ruled province has focused attention on who will take over when Northern Ireland secretary James Prior steps down next month.

## Jackson: 'Not really' with Mondale

NEW YORK (AP). — Black leader, Jesse Jackson said yesterday that he is "not really aboard" Walter Mondale's presidential campaign and warned that Mondale cannot beat President Ronald Reagan without support from black voters.

"Without the black voters voting

in great numbers, the Democratic Party cannot win," said Jackson, who challenged Mondale for the opposition party's presidential nomination. "The black vote has been more loyal to the Democratic Party than the Jewish vote or the labour vote — or any vote."

His remarks, on ABC-TV's "Good Morning America," followed complaints by Mondale that Jackson was not living up to his promise of support for the Democratic ticket.

"I'm not really aboard," Jackson agreed. "I'm not part of the inner circle, for example. I'm not part of the policy-making arrangement."

He called on Mondale to meet with him and other key Democrats to map out a strategy for defeating Reagan in November.

"So far, we have not had the kind of physical contact we should have, but to some extent, that ball is in his court," Jackson said.

## Sports

## Lendl disgusted

TORONTO (AP). — Francisco Gonzalez of Paraguay used his powerful serve to upset top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia in the second round of the \$450,000 Player's International Tennis Tournament.

Gonzalez blasted seven aces while defeating the defending champion from Czechoslovakia 7-6 (7-3), 6-4 in one of three upsets in the second round.

Other upset victims included fifth-seeded Johan Kriek, who fell 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 to fellow-American Van Winitsky, and no. 10 Joachim Nystrom of Sweden, who was bounced 6-4, 6-1 by U.S. player Scott McCain.

Third-seeded Jimmy Connors safely advanced with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Andy Kohlberg, and John McEnroe trounced Mark Edmondson 6-2, 6-1.

"I'm a very happy person right now," said Gonzalez, ranked 91st in the world. "It's my best result since I beat Connors 6-2, 7-6 in Cincinnati last year. I think he was a little disheartened at my approaching him. He felt the pressure."

"I was disgusted with myself," said Lendl, who was seeking his fourth Canadian Open title in the last five years.

## Astros aid Mets

NEW YORK (AP). — The Houston Astros obliged the New York Mets by defeating the Chicago Cubs 6-2 in National League baseball action on Wednesday night, while the Mets were beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 3-2. The Mets are now only 2½ games behind the Cubs.

Sid Fernandez scattered five hits over 7½ innings to key the Mets' victory. Mark Ballew drove in three runs and Bob Knepper combined on a six-hitter in the Astros' victory climax to a six game winning streak.

In Pittsburgh, it was announced that the Pittsburgh Pirates' great Roberto Clemente will be featured on a new 20-cent postage stamp that is the fourth in a series honouring American sports heroes, according to the U.S. Postal Service.

The stamp, which will be issued in Puerto Rico on Friday and will be available in post offices on Saturday, shows the late right fielder wearing a white-coloured Pirates cap imposed over the flag of Puerto Rico.

Clemente, an 18-year major league veteran and a 12-time National League all-star, died December 31, 1972, while leading a mercy mission to help earthquake victims in Nicaragua. Clemente's airplane plunged into the sea off Puerto Rico and his body was never recovered.

American League:  
New York 3, Seattle 2; Cleveland 16, Toronto 1, 1st game; Cleveland 4, Toronto 3, 13 innings, 2nd game; Oakland 6, Baltimore 1; Detroit 8, California 3; Texas 6, Chicago 5, 16 innings; Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 4; Kansas City 13, Boston 5.

National League:  
Montreal 8, San Francisco 3; Atlanta 7, Pittsburgh 3; Cincinnati 3, St. Louis 2, 11 innings; Houston 6, Chicago 2; San Diego 4, Philadelphia 3; New York 2, Los Angeles 2.

## Gatting's answer

LONDON (AP). — Middlesex beat Northamptonshire by eight wickets at Lords to reach the final of the knock-out one-day competition. Skipper Mike Gatting hit a six to end the match as Middlesex easily overhauled Northamptonshire's total of 225 with five overs to spare.

Their opponents will be last year's losing finalists, Kent, who beat Warwickshire in the other semi-final.

Gatting, top of the country batting averages, but left out of the England team after his failure in the second test at Lords, went on to score an unbeaten 88.

Northamptonshire 226 for six (Robert Bailey 56 not out, Wayne Larkins 52) Middlesex 287 for two (Mike Gatting 88 not out, W.H. Slack 79). Middlesex won by eight wickets.

## USSR Friendship

LONDON (AP). — Less than a week after the glittering finale of the 1984 Summer Olympics, Eastern Europe is responding with its own international games for some 40 nations, including the 14 who boycotted the Los Angeles events.

The "Friendship 84" games, to be staged in six communist countries, are shrouded in uncertainty, with neither a complete list of participants nor a confirmed schedule. But organizers insist full competitions will be held, with their athletes vying for world records.

Some Western athletes, including Olympic medalists, have reportedly accepted invitations.

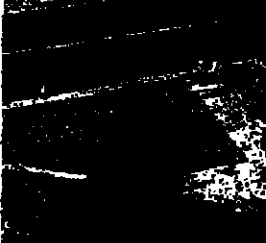
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## FOCUS

**JUSTICE MINISTER** Moshe Nissim, retiring and affable as always, is a reluctant hero. He may well be remembered in the future as the man who stopped fascism here dead in its tracks. But he does not seem to relish the prospect.

On Sunday, at the Labour-Likud unity government talks, he announced that he had asked the attorney-general to draw up legislation specifically outlawing racism and providing for extremist parties to be barred from running for the Knesset.

On Monday, he issued a public statement explaining this initiative and adding that if the Knesset decided "to consider amending the immunity law (for MKs), the Justice Ministry will help (with research and staff work)."

On Tuesday, Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir declared that he was giving this legislation top priority.

Just the kind of news Israel needs. Yet somehow Nissim seems different, as though he is doing his duty, but not enjoying it.

Perhaps because he knows that these moves will not be well received in certain sections of the "national camp."

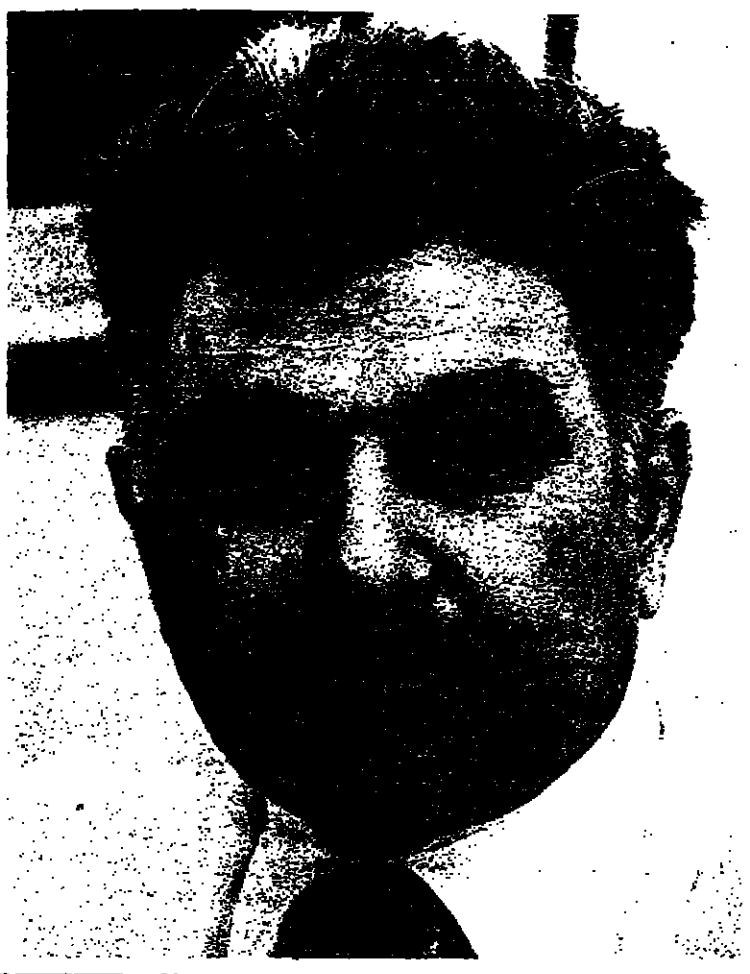
"The people who voted for Kahane," he says, "especially members of the Oriental community, were looking for an answer to Yossi Sarid and the others, and what they stand for. These people, unlike the left-wingers, have no means of political self-expression except at the ballot-box, once in four years. They do not enjoy instant access to the media."

**NISSIM SEEMED** much more comfortable, in an interview this week, discussing his contribution to the Likud's relative success in the election. Here, he was truly an unsung hero, chairing the party's propaganda committee but attracting less of the limelight and of the post-election praise than his bright young committee members Ronnie Milo, Ehud Olmert and Dan Meridor.

To be fair, Olmert, in a recent

# Out of the limelight

The Post's David Landau talks to Justice Minister Moshe Nissim (right) about the Likud's election strategy.



Jerusalem Post interview, was warm and generous in his praise for Chairman Nissim - a rare and noteworthy departure from Olmert's usual parsimony in praising other politicians.

At first, Nissim indicates, his role was something of a rescue mission. The Herut-Liberal feuding had sapped the Likud's strength and held up the election campaign preparations until perilously late. By the time he was offered the propaganda chairmanship, says Nissim, in the first week of June, he hesitated to take it,

fearing that too little time was left to mount an effective campaign.

When he took over, he found himself thoroughly dissatisfied with the preliminary work that had been done under Gideon Gadot (Herut). No systematic research had been done, he says. Virtually no film material had been prepared. "In 1981 (when Nissim also served as the propaganda chairman), most of the television films were ready two months before the election."

Olmert (La'am) came in with Nis-

sim, and the team became Nissim, Milo, Gadot, Olmert and Meridor. Together with the Tal-Arrovo advertising agency and the Roll film company.

Nissim saw his key task as setting the propaganda "line" - and sticking to it. He studied a poll taken in late May by Modi'in Ezrachi and Sara Shemer (they were still together then), and learned that the economy and Lebanon were the two main issues preoccupying the public. He learned, too, that the Likud was

lagging significantly behind Labour.

His conclusion - and this, Nissim believes, was his vital contribution to the campaign - was that the Likud must not accept the public's preoccupations as a datum, but rather seek to shift and re-mould them.

"Basically," he says, "there is a steady trend among many voters, especially young people, towards supporting Likud. They identify with the Likud on foreign policy. They appreciate the quiet social revolution that Likud has wrought."

"But people were put off by our failures and poor policy implementation in various areas: the economy, Lebanon, relations around the cabinet table."

"My job was to remind them of their basic sympathies. To return them to the fold, despite their criticisms."

He called a strategy session of all the campaign key-men. David Levy, Yoram Aridor and Ariel Sharon attended, along with Nissim's committee and the professionals.

"I said I take the poll findings very seriously. But our task is to channel public attention to other problems, other foci - especially to the issues of defence and foreign policy."

Instead of fighting a defensive battle, Nissim told the meeting, the Likud should underscore the successes of its years in power. Also, it must "portray the Labour Alignment in its true colours."

**LOOKING BACK** over the subsequent hectic weeks during which, he says, he sometimes worked 22-hour days, Nissim is almost disparaging of Labour's performance. "Technically," he concedes, "they were better than us. Some of their films were superb." But the political management of Labour's campaign, he feels, with all due modesty, was not a patch on the Likud's.

Labour, he feels, failed to do what it ought to have done, and blundered into doing what it ought not to have done, thus opening up opportunities which Nissim and his team were quick to seize.

"They were right, from their point of view, to play down their dovishness, to hide away Yossi Sarid and Mapam. These ideas are not popular, even among the majority of their own voters. And we for our part were determined to unmask the real face of Labour, using authentic material - interviews and statements by Labour leaders. Our broadcast, for instance, contrasting 'Election Rabin' with 'Regular Rabin' definitely hit home, as did our repeated challenge 'Where is Yossi Sarid?'"

ONE TACTIC to which Nissim does not refer - perhaps because he is not proud of it - was the consistent reference to "the Mapam-Labour Alignment," implying that the Mapam tail wags the Labour dog rather than the reverse.

"But Labour was wrong," Nissim insists, "in its theory that it must avoid offending former Likud voters. On the contrary, it should have been much more aggressive, specific, and hard-hitting on domestic issues: the economy, relations between ministers. Either they didn't have good research material, or they didn't know how to use it."

"Not that their 'gentle souls' image, enthusiastically espoused by the media, was in fact the truth. They were brutal - but here they blundered into overkill. They kept claiming that the Likud has destroyed the country, or, as Peres put it, 'The country has come to a standstill.'"

"It was here, in the realm of credibility, that Labour incurred a devastating setback. People just won't buy that sort of thing."

"Labour seemed to think either that the people are fools, or that the Likud are fools. But neither were. Ionnina (the well-paid bank executive who claimed she couldn't 'finish the month') was a case in point."

Labour's overkill, instead of selective, effective attacks, "gave us the opportunity to show what we had achieved: settlement, Project Renewal, peace with Egypt."

As a result, Nissim believes, the Likud lost hardly any voters to Labour and its allies. Three of Likud's mandates "went straight to the right," Nissim says - to Tehiya and Kahane. Another mandate and a half, he reckons, went to Shas. And two whole mandates were lost to Ezer Weizman.

But the basic political-demographic trend, he is convinced, favours the Likud. "That's why," he declares, "we are the only party that has nothing to fear from new elections."

# Voice of pragmatism

The Post's Asher Wallfish talks to first-time MK Yehoshua Matza.

**HERUT'S JERUSALEM** district party headquarters just behind the Hamashbir building looked as though it would still take a while to recover from the election hangover when I went to meet local boss Yehoshua Matza, No. 32 on the Likud list.

The first-time Knesset member was busy with party functionaries inside his room, but outside in the corridor, half a dozen campaign workers and sundry suppliers were milling around, complaining noisily that they had not yet been paid.

One of them shouted, "Next time I'll work for the Alignment. They pay up!"

The noise was added to by the efforts of a builder-laying a new floor, and by the water from a burst pipe were sloshing all over the place.

When we managed to get away to a nearby cafe, where Matza knew he wouldn't be bothered, I asked him to tell me why the Likud lost so many Knesset seats, nationwide.

His reply was (for me) a political revelation which few are better qualified to make than a Sephardi born and bred in Jerusalem, Israel's Sephardopolis.

"They're all talking about the two Knesset seats that Tehiya took from us and the one that Kach took. But the foe which is hardest of all to combat, though it cost us perhaps only one seat this time, is Shas. I'm not at all sure how we're going to grapple with that political phenomenon in the future."

"I told Prime Minister Shamir at a closed meeting two months before the elections that despite our careful planning for the campaign in Jerusalem, there seemed nothing we could do to stop Shas taking some voters from us. Their *kabanim* tell these Orthodox Sephardim how to vote and they obey without demur."

"It's the first Sephardi success-story, Tami, was an opportunist and materialistic, grouping (*kadal-niki*, he said in Hebrew - the I-know-what's-in-it-for-me Sephardim), then this is a far more genuine and altruistic Tami with real sociological and religious motivation. The Likud has to realize that Shas is not only here to stay, but it will get stronger as time goes on."

**MATZA, 53**, is a 12th-generation Jerusalemite whose ancestors fled to Greece after their expulsion from Spain in 1492, to take refuge in Salonika under the welcoming Turks.

His three oldest brothers were born inside the walls of the Old City. He himself was born in Yemin-Moshe just facing the Citadel and the walls on the western crest of the Hinnom Valley. Most of the customers at his father's textile shop were Arabs, and he speaks fluent Arabic. He joined the anti-British underground at the age of 13 and finished his high-school studies only after the War of Independence.

Matza studied law for a year, then took a Histradrut course in auditing, a profession he followed until he became deputy mayor of the capital. His wife was born in Israel but grew up in Panama.

Matza is a man who worked himself up to a parliamentary seat along the rough road of municipal politics. He was elected to the Jerusalem city council for Gahal, the forerunner of the Likud, in 1966, and as Gahal's No. 2 man he bore the brunt of keeping an eagle eye on Mayor Teddy Kollek, who did not always think twice before saying what he thought.

In his public remarks during some of the controversies about united Jerusalem following the Six Day War, Matza sometimes gave the im-

pression that he believed integration would work if imposed from above.

A typical comment was, "Anyone with doubts as to the speedy integration of the two parts of the city is not capable of acting to achieve a united city and to my regret Kollek has many doubts."

**MATZA'S CAREER** since then, as reflected in the media records, covers solid administrative spheres on the municipal scene, and the pride he felt in being made responsible for the capital's parks, gardens and sanitation stands out a mile. "Jerusalem is the cleanest city in Israel," he declared in October 1970.

Because Matza worked hand in hand with Kollek to make the best use of the Jerusalem Fund for the beautification of the city, he had also to defend Kollek against attacks



Yehoshua Matza (Israel Sun)

from his own friends in Herut, such as lawyer-diplomat Ya'acov Nehushtan: when, as a Gahal MK in the early '70s, Nehushtan insinuated from behind his Knesset immunity that there were fiddles with the Foundation's funds. Matza then said of Nehushtan: "His remarks were based on rumours and I have no use for rumours. These rumours haven't reached me."

One theme at which Matza hammered away was the need to redraw the city boundaries, by building a suburb at Nebi Samwil, expanding Ramot, linking Neve Yaacov to French Hill, settling Jews along the road to Maale Edmunda, and so forth. He frequently clashed with the Alignment on this, at the municipal as well as the national level. Especially when he called for a Jewish majority in the Old City.

Matza felt comfortable, it seems, as a pragmatist within the Likud, and so he strongly combated attempts by some fellow Likud councillors to push for Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount. He wrote in *Ma'ariv*, that the proposal stirred up emotions at a time when policy towards the Arabs required "tolerance, a soft hand and concessions."

On the national level, when the resignation of Prime Minister Menachem Begin last year threw the Herut wing of the Likud into a whirl over the leadership issue, Matza reportedly identified with the David-Levy-for-Premier lobby.

His appearance now in a safe place

on the Likud list indicates that Levy took good care of Matza even though Levy was defeated by Shamir.

The fact that Matza was twice defeated by Kollek in the Jerusalem mayoralty race does not necessarily label him as a failure. Bigger and better Likud luminaries refused to stand against Kollek, and the race was a foregone conclusion before it started. Although Matza made very optimistic noises in his election campaigns, he realized that running against Kollek was a chore which nobody wanted in the Likud, albeit Jerusalem was always a Herut stronghold, in Knesset elections.

Transferring the brunt of his activities to the Knesset will also mean his getting a bit of a rest from his rivals within the Herut wing of the Likud at the local level.

During the last couple of years, Matza controlled the party machine in Jerusalem, in his own name and in the name of Deputy Premier Levy. But the Herut "Young Turks" put up a strenuous fight against him, on behalf of relative newcomers to the party who won their spurs on personal popularity and did not depend on jobs that Herut had at its disposal. Matza came out on top, but it wasn't easy.

At present he is chairman of the board of Shikun U'Pimah, the state housing corporation.

**ASKED TO EXPLAIN** the recent growth of Tehiya and Kach, his fatalistic reply was:

"There is nothing to be done about it. Arab terror acts caused anger among Israelis at large and bitterness among the many bereaved families and their friends. Arab terror caused a reaction among Israelis with especially strong nationalist emotions, not necessarily nourished on the ideals of Eretz Yisrael. You find the blind fanaticism of *alehum* ('Get at them') on both fringes of society."

"Kahana has supporters among young American Jews who come here to let off steam and are well aware that they would be put behind bars in the United States for doing there what they do here."

His advice to the media is "not to report Kahane's every stutter, and cut him down to size for the next four years, which can be done in any number of ways. And if, Heaven forbid, he gets involved in acts of violence, I'm sure that criminal proceedings will be taken against him in the normal way, and the courts will have their say."

As for the growing support for the Tehiya Party (which went up from three Knesset seats to five), Matza said that conversations with long-time Herut loyalists showed him that they voted Tehiya because they objected to the presence of Liberal free-loaders on the Likud list.

"They told me that since the Likud and Tehiya were in one camp, a vote for Tehiya was a 'net vote' for the camp, while a vote for the Likud meant that half of it would be wasted on Liberals, who on their own have no public backing."

Matza revealed that other Herut loyalists who voted for the time told him they sought "a party which could be counted upon for Yami-style demonstration to protect

Eretz Yisrael, and not just practical measures."

"There were still others who voted Herut previously, but who now feared that the Likud would not maintain the previous tempo of new

settlement in Judea and Samaria after the elections. They feared that we intend to compromise over Eretz Yisrael and that we would agree to progress in stages towards our aims."



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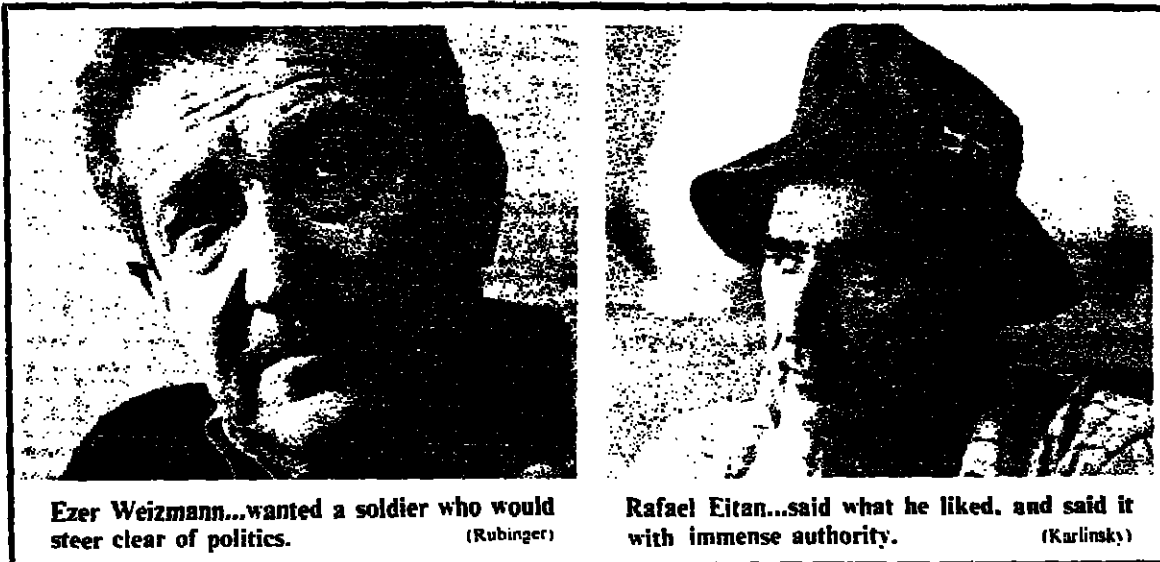
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# EZER'S RESPONSIBILITY

By ASHER WALLFISH



Ezer Weizman...wanted a soldier who would steer clear of politics. (Rubinger)

Rafael Eitan...said what he liked, and said it with immense authority. (Karlinsky)

**YAHAD LEADER** Ezer Weizman refuses to contemplate entering a national unity coalition which includes the five-man Tehiya party.

It is one of the ironies of political life that politicians often do more to build up their adversaries than the adversaries themselves.

Weizman bears a share of the blame for making Tehiya what it is today, because he appointed Rafael Eitan to the critical post of chief of staff in January 1978, while he was defence minister in the first Begin cabinet.

A public figure whose egoism must have overshadowed his perceptiveness of character, Weizman thought he was smarter than Eitan and could easily direct him.

But Eitan out-smarted Weizman. He knew where he wanted to go, and he knew how to persevere, shrugging off all criticism as bias or Jewish self-hatred.

Above and beyond his strictly military objectives, Eitan wanted to mould a generation of some tens of thousands of impressionable young soldier-conscripts in his personal image. He wanted to use the immense power wielded by any chief of staff to prepare the cadres for the ideological group of his choice, without knowing, on his appointment in 1978, that he would eventually land up in Israel's Eleventh Knesset.

True, Weizman was not as certain as was former premier Menachem Begin that Eitan was the right man for the job. But he was won over by Begin's argument that the appointment would facilitate the process of separating top IDF echelons from the decision-making process at the political level. (As it turned out, the opposite happened.)

Weizman wanted a soldier who would steer clear of politics. The man he chose was 100 per cent soldier - but 200 per cent politician.

BY THE TIME the July 23, 1984 elections came round, Eitan had already assured enough additional voters for Tehiya to give him his own Knesset seat, as well as a fifth one for Gershon Shafat, the mild-mannered religious kibbutznik from Gush Emunim. In the outgoing Knesset, Tehiya had three seats.

Admittedly, not all the votes which account for these two extra seats came from men in uniform. But Eitan amassed them because the post of chief of staff which Weizman gave him allowed him to exploit his rank as a propaganda platform without blinking an eyelid.

Twelve per cent of the soldiers' votes went to Tehiya, nearly three times the civilian statistic. But Tehiya voters include not only men and women currently doing their

compulsory army or reserve service; they also include those who served under Eitan and were subsequently discharged. Eitan had a long, five-year term as chief of staff. Year by year, new conscripts were inducted and exposed both to his ideas and to those of the officers he chose to make responsible for their training.

But Weizman, through Eitan, is also to blame for the two and half per cent of soldiers' votes which went to Meir Kahane's Kach party. This is because political extremism, by invariably delegitimizing moderation, automatically legitimizes hyper-extremism. Whether my good friend Tehiya MK Gula Cohen would agree with me or not, Tehiya-as-fashioned-by-Eitan among young people has legitimized Kach-as-fashioned-by-Kahane among their peers of a certain educational, moral and psychological calibre. Kach is Tehiya taken to its logical conclusion by illogical kids.

True, political groups in this country, both before and after independence, have traditionally depended on their schools and youth movements to mould future voters who would one day guarantee their political growth. Eitan, having the opportunity as well as the motive, simply took this tradition to its ultimate conclusion. He founded his own private youth movement.

Both inside and outside the army, Eitan said what he liked, and said it with immense authority.

And his authority was all the more persuasive, because Eitan is one of Israel's great modern military heroes and leaders. From his early days in the paratroops, to his incalculable contribution to turning the tide on the Golan Heights in the Yom Kippur War. On the strength of the Jewish tradition going back to the Book of Judges, Eitan's heroism in war was accepted by many as a qualification for leadership in time of peace.

A brief recall of the ex-generals in Israel who have entered politics suggests that this tradition does not always stand up to the test.

The facts about Eitan began to stare Weizman, the rest of the government, and the nation in the face after he started publicizing his views, and arousing more controversy than all of Israel's previous chiefs of staff lumped together.

A quick look at the highlights of Eitan's quoted remarks during the first two years of his service as chief of staff not only makes his political

outlook quite plain; it also proves he knew he could evangelize, and get away with it.

The pupils of Ze'ev Jabotinsky, who could have been expected to insist on a clean, constitutional separation between the civil service and the elected executive, were overjoyed at having an extra sounding board in khaki, and the new professional authority lent to some of their previously disparaged political ideas. They liked the way a chief of staff was giving them legitimacy for the first time.

The Likud was pleased at the way it thought it was using Eitan. In fact, Eitan was using the Likud, and has long since left it behind, as being too wishy-washy for his liking.

FOR HIS FIRST tentative overture, Eitan played the let's-not-wash-any-dirty-linen-in-public theme.

Only two months after his appointment, he appealed to the Israeli press not to publish reports about the army which could give comfort to the Arab states.

This elicited the prompt rebuke from Prof. Reuven Yaron, then head of the Broadcasting Authority and a Likud appointee usually described as one of the last few Jabotinsky Revisionists, that Eitan's appeal was "extremely dangerous." Yaron said that Israel's society would pay the price if the criterion for publishing a news item was what the Arabs might think of it.

Eitan had been less than four months in office when he used his position as a vehicle to propound his political ideas about the future of the West Bank. In an Independence Day interview on Israel TV, he took a position to the right of the Begin government with regard to settlement and negotiations with the Arabs. He said Israelis should "stop being naive" about their country's security needs, the intentions of the Arabs, including Egypt, and the outcome of the War of Independence.

The Arabs were using political negotiations as "another means" of obliterating Israel, the chief of staff told viewers (and perhaps the government as well).

The Likud MK who later became defence minister, Moshe Arens, gave Eitan total constitutional support, saying it was the duty of a chief of staff "to define the conditions under which he feels the IDF can defend the state."

Because of the row sparked by his TV interview and the private rebukes which Eitan drew from Begin and Weizman (who defended him publicly), the chief of staff did not draw headlines with political comment for some time. However, in a more practical sphere, he "acted without authority when he offered a deal to a Gush Emunim squatters group" according to the Defence Ministry spokesman in September 1978. Weizman overruled him.

After the row caused by this incident, Post military correspondent Hersh Goodman wrote on October 5, 1978: "Being chief of staff is more than just managing an army. It is having your hands on a tremendous source of power which could cause incalculable harm if abused."

"Despite the preponderance of generals in Israeli politics," Goodman wrote, "there has never been the slightest hint of military intervention in politics."

EITAN'S THIRD major public controversy followed the rows about the political future of the West Bank, and policy towards unauthorized Gush Emunim squatters. It concerned his reduction of the sentence passed by a military court on an IDF reservist for murdering a Jerusalem Arab from 10 years to three, after the original 20 years had been reduced to 10 by an appeals court. On April 23, 1979, The Jerusalem Post described the chief of staff's intervention as "official tacit acquiescence in a heinous random act because of the tension under which we all live."

Two months later, Eitan got involved in a similar controversy when he reduced a military court sentence for manslaughter committed by an IDF officer in Lebanon from eight years to two, again after the appeals court had already reduced it from 12 years to eight. According to the Post, Eitan had the military censor repeatedly ban publication of the remission on grounds of "national security."

Eitan's statements in the 1984 election campaign about full civil rights for Israeli Arabs only if they performed national service are not new. In July 1979, referring to all citizens, and not just Arabs, Eitan told 10 members of the Knesset Education Committee that "anyone who refuses to volunteer for the army should not be considered part of the state."

Eitan was asked that same month by the High Court to submit an affidavit, on security grounds, for the sequestration of private Arab land near Nabulus, at Eilon Moreh. The seizure was essential for Israel's security, he argued.

Three months later, when the High Court ruled that Eilon Moreh

was illegal, it also ruled that the settlement was set up for political and not security reasons. But it stressed its great respect for the chief of staff's professional opinions.

One of the more illuminating remarks by Eitan came in June that next year, after the car bomb attack on three West Bank Arab mayors. He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that there was "nothing significantly new" in the attempted assassinations. The same week he told Israel TV that "Arab violence had increased and become intolerable, thus inciting Jewish response."

THE CONTROVERSIAL and divisive comments which marked Eitan's first two years as chief of staff were repeated in different forms many times during his remaining three years as the country's most influential educator and guide on security affairs.

They reached their distasteful climax in April last year, when he compared Arabs who were demonstrating and throwing stones as "a result of intensified Jewish settlement in the areas" to dragged coconuts roaches running about hither and thither in a bottle.

There have been coarse and offensive remarks in the Knesset in the past and, after the initial shock, it has learned to live with them. But these remarks did not have the extraordinary advantage of being authoritative experts in their fields. This is what enabled Eitan to get away with as much as he did.

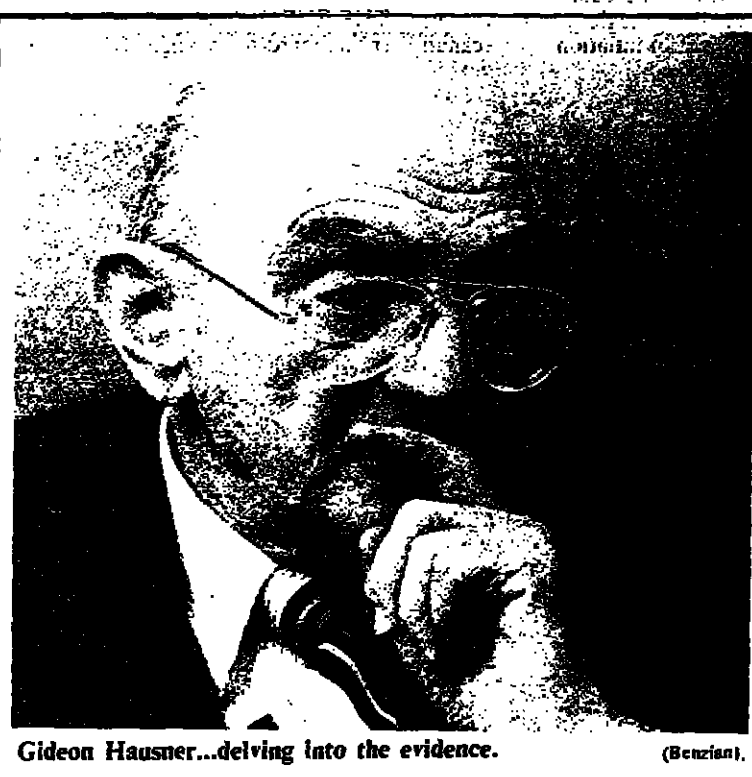
When Knesset crystal-ball gazer talked of the polarization and turbulence which the two new parties, the Progressive List for Peace and Kach, are threatening to bring to this country's parliamentary scene, perhaps they forget that Tehiya's Eitan can create more pandemonium than both the new parties combined.

The ex-chief of staff probably does not hope to keep the House agitated, and torn by strife. Nor, probably, does he understand why this is inevitable.

The writer is The Jerusalem Post Knesset correspondent.

## IMMUNE RESPONSES

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN



Gideon Hausner...delving into the evidence. (Benzion)

committee that it was not a court of law, he said, it was its duty to satisfy itself that the evidence constituted a prima facie case against the minister.

THE SUPREME COURT rejected that view of the committee's function a few months later when it dismissed Abuhazzeira's argument that although he had been stripped of his immunity in the Ninth Knesset he had regained it when he was re-elected to the Tenth.

Justice Landau, speaking for the four-member majority, said *en passant* that the court agreed with the view that the House Committee should restrict itself to the question of whether the attorney-general's motives were proper or were politically motivated. (This led the court to the conclusion that it sufficed for the attorney-general's motives to be examined only once.)

Still, unless the court's view is incorporated into the law, there is no guarantee that the House Committee, on similar occasions in future, will not "don judicial robes, delve into the evidence to see whether it is sufficient to substantiate the charges, and thereby put the attorney-general himself in the dock."

THE VIVID PROSE is that of another former attorney-general, Gideon Hausner, who later served in the cabinet. He, too, like the Claude Klein Committee, describes Israel's immunity law as being without parallel in any other parliament.

Freedom of speech, Hausner has written, must of course be guaranteed to every parliamentarian. But not freedom of slander. And although all statements made by an MK in the Knesset chamber should be protected, this does not hold for statements made elsewhere.

He recounts an incident in the Dutch parliament when a member was expelled from a session. Soon after he left, another member shouted after him, "Traitor!" As this outburst occurred a second or two

after the session was adjourned, the member was tried and punished.

Why, indeed, should members of the Knesset be immune from prosecution for defamatory statements made outside the Knesset, when members of the House of Commons, and, indeed, of most other parliaments are not?

In order to keep the Knesset from becoming a breeding ground for slander, Hausner says, an injured person should have to prove that an MK made defamatory statements outside the Knesset, thus paving the way for legal proceedings.

Knesset Members frequently challenge a colleague, "Wave your immunity!" And other members, just as frequently, righteously retort, "I'm prepared to waive my immunity!"

This is utter nonsense, because under the present law, the member concerned has no say in the matter. Only the Knesset, on the recommendation of the House Committee, can remove a member's immunity, the rationale being that the immunity law is designed to protect the proper functioning of the Knesset as a whole.

Hausner thinks that this question should be reconsidered. If a member is willing to open his act to review by the courts, the formal approval of the Speaker should be sufficient.

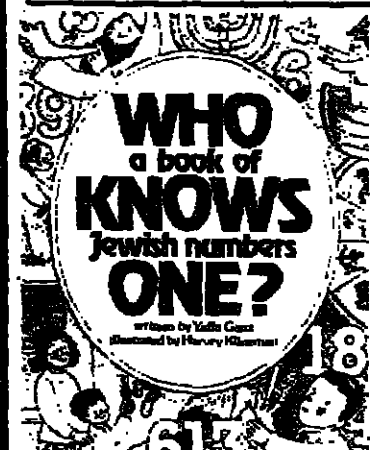
AS NOTED, the call to amend the Knesset Members Immunity Law was issued as far back as 1972. The behaviour of the House Committee in the Abuhazzeira case, and the irresponsible charges of Hashai against Moda'i (for which he paid no penalty) only built up the case for reform.

Now that Meir Kahane can exploit his newly-won immunity to the hilt, the Knesset should have the necessary motivation to do what it should have done long ago.

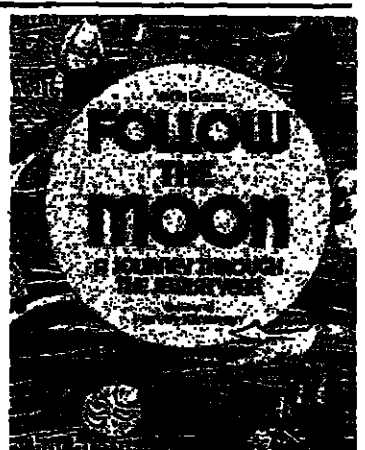
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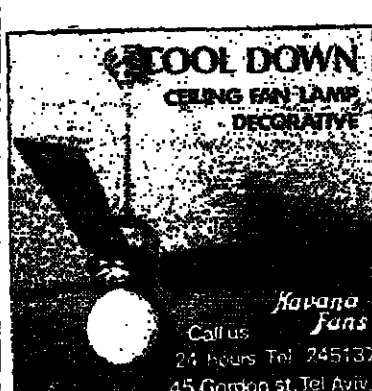
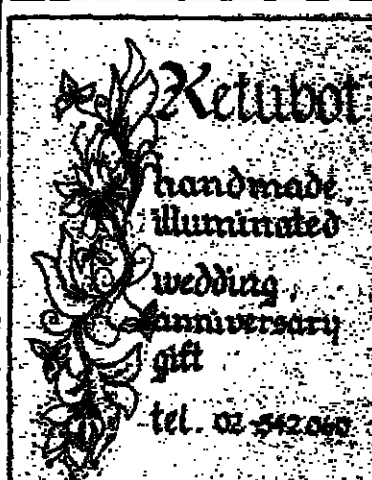
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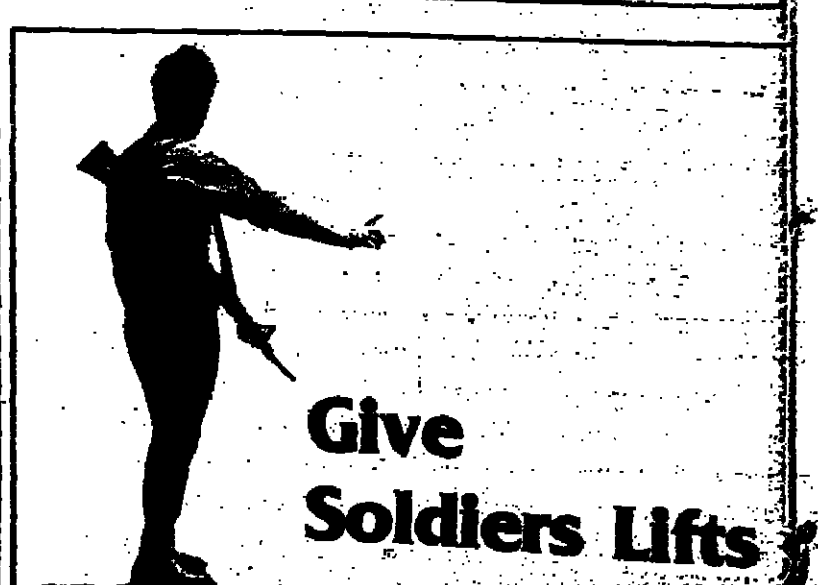
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THE BANKS and the bankers. Even mentioning them is sufficient nowadays to evoke strong reactions from otherwise rational people. Once feared and now hated, the banks are generally seen as fallen idols. Most of the general public — their customers — have no sympathy for their current plight except insofar as it is likely to cost them personally, whether by way of higher bank charges or through taxes to pay off the holders of the bank shares.

But things are not so straightforward. In Israel, the banks have achieved a central place in the entire economic system, not just in the financial sector. They own numerous companies in various other areas of the economy, and lend money to many more. They are the agents of the government and the nationalized services in collecting and paying all sorts of taxes, rates and dues. They cannot just be wished away, nor can they be easily replaced in many of their roles.

And what of the heads of the banks? Were they responsible for the blunders of the past, notably the collapse of the bank shares. And what are they doing to clear up the mess? Why has the government accused the banks and their heads of forming a cartel to control interest rates when it can itself fix rates at will?

Even more relevant, what will the banks look like in the future? Beyond the immediate issue of the current crisis, which merges into the general national economic emergency, the banks are in a line of business which is being dragged headlong into the future by the breakneck pace of technological advance in the data-processing and information industries. Computers are already standard equipment, and the talk now is of personalized "home-banking," with each customer connected to his bank from a terminal in his home or office. Will this happen here, and what differences will such developments make to our behaviour and to our personal and national economic well-being?

Anyone seeking clear-cut answers — about the past or the future — is certain to be disappointed. At best, one can only try to pick out the emerging trends and estimate where they might lead. Conclusions about how we got to be where we are now are equally tentative. However, talking to the heads of the three major banks and the chairman of the Bank of Israel brought many current issues into sharper focus, and cast some light on where we are all headed.

**RAPHAEL RECANATI**, general manager and chairman of the board of Bank Discount, pronounced himself "definitely dissatisfied" with the tiny profit (\$2.6m) after inflation that the bank announced this week for the first six months of 1984.

Recanati, 60-year-old son of the bank's founder and boss since his

## Pinhas Landau talks to Bank Discount chairman Raphael Recanati (below)

# 'Who could have foreseen that inflation would rise to 400 per cent?'



brother Daniel stepped down a few years ago for health reasons, was speaking in very relative terms. A return of capital of 1.87 per cent on an annual basis, which the figures indicated, is indeed unsatisfactory compared to the results that Discount and other banks used to achieve in the 1970s. More to the point, it is only a fraction of the level of profitability that will be needed over the next few years, if the threat of the government exercising its right-cum-obligation to buy the bank shares held by the public is not to be made good, in October 1988.

The other banks are all publicly owned anyway, in one form or another — Leumi by the Jewish Agency, Hapoalim by Hevrat Ha'Ovedim and Mizrahi by the Hapoel Hamizrabi movement. Discount belongs to the Recanati family; hence the lack of enthusiasm to have the government "come aboard" as senior partner. Hence, also, the determination to return the bank to a high degree of profitability as soon as possible and the relative unhappiness with the small profit.

However, the achievement of even that much profit is a sharp reversal of the 1983 saga — a terrible year that finished for Discount with a loss of \$33m. That, and the bank share debacle of last October, spurred management to shake up the bank and re-address it in the direction of paying its way. From that

point of view, the half-yearly results show that some progress is being made. Recanati calls it "the first contribution" of the efficiency and cost-cutting measures that the bank took, starting in late 1983.

The statistics of the measures will be treated separately, on a comparative basis with the other banks. Their main thrust has been to fire excess staff, close down unprofitable branches, and increase the bank's income by charging "realistic" prices for the services it provides.

In this respect, the banks are not beating about the bush. Recanati and his colleagues say quite openly that they are seeking to change the banking behaviour of the public radically, breaking the habits formed during the last decade of rising inflation. This inflation (and now hyper-inflation) inevitably brought with it a demand for more and more financial services, as more and more money spun round the economy at an ever-increasing pace.

**BUSINESS ANALYSTS** claim that this development should have been very beneficial for the banks, whatever its negative effects on the economy as a whole and on individuals.

However, the banks made a fundamental strategic error in their assessment of inflation, as Recanati frankly admits when we discuss the erosion of the banks' profits and the background to the collapse of the

bank shares as these developed in the years before October 1983.

"There was then no inflationary accounting, and the profits were very high (in nominal terms)," says the Bank Discount chairman. "Remember, this was at a time when the then-finance minister, Yoram Aridor, was convinced that inflation was a thing that would pass. He would speak to us in terms of, 'This year inflation is 100 per cent, next year it will go down to 30 per cent and then to 30 per cent. So it didn't seem important — it was a temporary phenomenon.'"

"Who could have foreseen that inflation would rise from 130 to 200 per cent and to 400 per cent? This is something one can see after the event, but when it was happening we hoped it was a transient stage. Our thinking was not based on runaway inflation."

This attitude, which was shared by other senior bankers as well, is the most revealing admission possible about what happened in the economy, and the banking system in particular, in the past several years. Everything else, including the rise and fall of the bank shares, falls into place when seen in this perspective.

THE EVENTS of 1983 provided the springboard for change. Of course, in a normal country, the people responsible for bringing the banking system to the point of having all but

wiped out its own capital would have had to answer for their failures. However, this did not happen. Now the same people are trying to turn the whole system around and make the banks work like profit-making institutions. In objective terms, it is probably too late to change horses, when we are in midstream and fighting against the current.

The existing senior managements thus have an extra disadvantage, in addition to the problems they face in any case. The fact that they are identified with what went wrong means they have lost the faith of wide sections of the public. They have a compensating advantage, however, in that they know in what and how they went wrong, and should therefore be better qualified to put things right.

To date, the bankers have managed two major achievements, since recovering from the shock of the immediate post-October lynch atmosphere. First, and most important, they have convinced the Treasury and the Bank of Israel that there must be full compensation for the use of the banks' services and that the government cannot continue to force the banks to do its bidding without regard to the effect on their profits.

In contrast to the period of Yoram Aridor's stewardship of the Finance Ministry, the banks believe there is a willingness to listen and consider

their problems. The recognition of their role in raising loans overseas was probably crucial in this respect.

Secondly, the traditional tension between management and staff has been resolved, at least for the duration of the crisis. Recanati, in particular, takes pride in the achievement of a wage agreement in Discount which involved far-reaching concessions on the part of employees; he stresses the importance of this worker-management co-operation in the difficult process of returning to profitability.

WHAT THE BANKS have not done is change their negative image in the public's eyes. The half-baked scheme for interest payments on current account balances introduced this month and, even more, the massive rise in operating charges for current accounts, which customers will wake up to only in September, will do nothing to help.

In fact, the banks are out to change the behaviour patterns of their customers in using their services simply by employing the stick, with very little carrot.

Recanati makes no secret of the strategy: "Our aim is to reduce the number of visits a customer makes to his branch." This will be done by charging for every transaction and service the bank provides, and by providing banking by telephone from home (called Telebank, a feature unique to Bank Discount).

"If we could bring about a lower frequency of customers coming to the bank, we would produce an immense saving in our operating costs."

As a result of this thinking, the programme of retrenchment at Discount has spared, as far as possible, the expansion in the introduction of computerized services which, it is claimed, will save on staff and thus cut costs, while having a minimal impact on the standard of service.

But what lies beyond the policy of "efficiency" in the sense of trimming off services that should never have been given and making the others pay for themselves? Is there any new strategic thinking, any innovative attitude to banking procedures and practices which could herald a fresh approach in an otherwise staid field?

Not at Bank Discount — but maybe that should be seen in its true context. Raphael Recanati spoke at length of the cautious and conservative management strategy that has held sway at Discount throughout the 50 years of the bank's life. Its policy of large set-offs for possible bad loans, its relatively low ratio of loans/deposits, particularly in its U.S. subsidiary, and the fact that it has the highest level of liquidity in the system are all well-known. In order to regain its financial health, Discount is being brought back to first principles, and there will be no risks taken.

But Bank Discount is not just the Discount network. The bank in-

vested \$80m. in the First International Bank, the most dynamic and innovative bank in the country, and it holds 30 per cent of the equity. First International has been the most profitable company in the economy for the last 18 months, and its profits have helped Discount greatly. If hard-sell marketing and new ideas are going to bring impressive results, Discount will benefit through First International. It is, in fact, a typically Recanati move to hedge his bets, taking risks cautiously, so to speak.

ALTHOUGH THE FIRST half of 1984 represents a change of trend, Recanati is worried about the second half. In particular, he is concerned that, as the economy drifts toward recession, the bank's business customers will find the going increasingly tough. This is further justification for a cautious approach, in his view.

Beyond that, the increasingly grim state of the economy is, not surprisingly, his main concern. He feels that the media's constant use of the term "bankrupt" to describe the country's plight only serves to make things worse, particularly in the way we are viewed abroad. This is a subject to which the bankers are extremely sensitive, since they are in "the front line" in this respect.

Recanati claims that he and his fellow bankers have been privately warning the government for more than a year, having foreseen the results of the policies in force. Now, he notes, "until we have a clear programme, we will not be able to obtain further loans from abroad, nor extra aid."

"Assuming that America will always solve all the problems is one of the most dangerous illusions around. They couldn't solve our problems even if they wanted to; the sums involved are simply too large, even for the U.S. We already receive one-quarter of their total aid. And they, too, have an enormous deficit. There is no chance of getting \$5b. in aid."

IS THE OVERHAUL and regeneration that the banks are going through a precursor of what lies in store for the whole country? According to Recanati, it is and the process has already begun, particularly in industry.

His prognosis is clear-cut, and at least holds out the prospect of a "happy ending": The first and most vital task is to cut the government budget and eliminate the printing of money. After that, there will be unemployment, workers will move to industry and industry will re-direct itself to export.

"It's easier said than done, but that's what will happen because there is no choice. All these things must happen."

In the context of turning the economy around, Recanati adds: "There is no doubt that the example of the banks is the first and most notable of what has to be done. And they're doing it."

## Emunah women on the warpath

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH/Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE WOMEN of Emunah, an affiliate of the National Religious Party, are being used by the men of the party, and they both know it. But the women — non-political, dedicated volunteers — are too responsible and lady-like to rebel.

The NRP is the only religious list to have included women, but before every election campaign, Emunah women have had to struggle for recognition. As the size of its Knesset faction declined, the women had a more difficult time getting atten-

tion. Since Sara Stern-Katan left the Knesset in 1981, no Emunah representative has been placed in a realistic NRP slot.

"It isn't that they don't want any

women on the list for religious reasons," she insists. "It's just that there are fewer seats, and they want all the power for themselves."

At an Emunah convention in Jerusalem earlier this year, the dean of the NRP, multi-minister Yosef Burg praised Emunah for its outstanding work in the fields of day-care, education and social welfare. Unlike the men of the NRP, he added, the women of Emunah have never become tainted by infighting or political dirt.

But that praise was of no help when Emunah tried to get into the 11th Knesset. The NRP offered Stern-Katan the eighth spot on the list, knowing full well that from such a position she didn't have a chance of getting into the Knesset. As Emunah has done before, it threatened to form a separate list.

The women were all ready to campaign, but a few hours before they were to submit their list to the Central Elections Committee, the Emunah executive backed down. Committee chairman Justice Gavriel Bach called Stern-Katan to inquire whether she intended to sign. She explained that her organization had decided to bow out.

STERN-KATAN discloses that Emunah was subjected to intense pressure from the NRP at various levels not to form a separate list.

She received anonymous calls from men who claimed they were active in the NRP and who declared that Emunah would be responsible for a split in the party and its continued decline. Other NRP men active in party branches, she says, used blunter intimidation. They threatened to ensure that Emunah would be deprived of needed services if the women broke off.



Sara Stern-Katan. (Uzi Keren)

"We are very responsible people," says Stern-Katan. "We didn't want to be responsible for a split." In addition, they realized that they couldn't afford to launch an expensive propaganda campaign, even though a number of women volunteered cheques of tens of thousands of shekels.

The Emunah executive decided, at the last moment, not to run separately, but Stern-Katan at the same time withdrew her name from the eighth slot on the NRP list. In addition, Emunah did not take part, as an organization, in the NRP campaign.

"It is important to be represented in the Knesset," says Stern-Katan. "But it isn't the end of the world." Do not the repeated submissions to the demands of the NRP men make Emunah appear to be "crying

wolf?" Stern-Katan shakes her head: "The party has promised that it would reorganize itself and its institutions very soon. We hope that we can believe them."

"We need a complete renewal of the religious Zionist movement. If it didn't exist, it would have to be invented. The NRP must have internal elections; it should not have factions."

She believes that it was a correct decision to set up a separate list, just as it was necessary not to go with that list to the voters. "I'm not happy with that decision, but we had no other choice."

She notes that the gap between religious Zionist ideals and the reality of the NRP is "tragic." But that, she adds, is no reason for religious Jews to abdicate and form new lists or to vote for non-religious parties.

THIS TIME if the NRP does not clean itself up and again make itself an attractive and honest party, it could mean the end of the faction, if not of the ideals for which it stood.

Meanwhile, Emunah, whose international membership of 120,000 is completely non-political and dedicated to religious education at all levels and to social welfare, con-

tinues to grow. The U.S. branch of Emunah arrived recently in Jerusalem to hold its 36th birthday convention. It was founded when Tova Sanhedrai, another former NRP Knesset member, went to the U.S. to tell of the need to establish an organization to help the thousands of homeless and orphaned immigrant children who arrived here after World War II.

Emunah of the U.S. dedicated an impressive day-care centre in the Gush Etzion new town of Efrat. Emunah was the first women's organization to provide such services beyond the Green Line. "We didn't

ask anybody. We saw the needs of the children, and we did it."

The American branch's community college in the Bak'a quarter of Jerusalem is also growing, adding computer science and photography to its present departments of graphics and child-care professionals.

The men of the NRP should take another look at the accomplishments of Emunah and realize that if they want the party to win back its self-respect and the support of the average national religious voter, they should put the women in the driver's seat rather than lock them up in the trunk.

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## Context

Friday, August 17, 1984 The Jerusalem Post Page Nine

## The flick-felafel index

By NOMI MORRIS / Special to The Jerusalem Post

THE PROMOTERS of the just-concluded Second International Festival of Puppet Theatre have come up with a new formula, which seems strange even in index-mad Israel. They linked the price of their tickets not to the dollar, the Deutschmark or to the yen, but to the price of a movie ticket and a felafel.

That's the admission of festival director Zachi Becker. He reports that 30,000 people, many of them adults, skipped the felafel and the flick to watch somebody pull the strings. "Anyone who would not watch puppet theatre at that price wouldn't watch it for free," he says.

Becker indicates that this festival and its predecessor last year — have gone a long way towards proving that puppet theatre is not kid's stuff. Fully 40 per cent of the performances — there were 34 — were aimed at adults.

"Until a couple of centuries ago, puppetry was a prime form of theatrical expression." From the time of ancient Greece, it provided a way for common folk to "laugh at the aristocracy. Puppets can say things that men can't."

That tradition goes back to the Punch-and-Judy show, and its Italian predecessor, Pulcinella. In the 17th and 18th centuries, says Becker, these shows were major vehicles for social criticism.

As an example, Becker notes that the 18th century version of *Faust*, written by Johann Goethe, was performed here by Austrian Gustav Dubelowski-Gelhorn, inspired Goethe to write his famous drama. That, he maintains, proves "how seriously puppet theatre used to be taken."

ONLY IN the last three decades has puppetry ceased being a kiddie show. That comeback has been much in evidence locally. "The conservative Israeli," Becker asserts, "is not embarrassed to pay a babysitter in order to go out and see a puppet show. Israelis are more open-minded in their approach to theatre than to other spheres of art."



A character in David Syrotiak's National Marionette Theatre (U.S.)

puppet show. Israelis are more open-minded in their approach to theatre than to other spheres of art."

At the festival, the imports — from the U.S., Germany, Austria, Italy, Britain, France and Canada — far outdrew the local products. But while the Israelis may have suffered at the box office, they'll benefit in the long run, from an "increased awareness of puppet theatre," predicts Becker.

But overall admissions did drop this year. In 1983, the festival had a creditable 92 per cent of hall capacity. This year, the figure dropped to 84 per cent, with admissions covering 50 per cent of the budget — the rest was footed by the Doron Foundation, the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Jerusalem Municipality.

Despite the drop, Becker is confident that there will be another festival, scheduled for 1986. "As long as we are not standing in line for rice and water, we can afford it," he says. "Mayor Teddy Kollek is in love with the idea — perhaps because he sees puppetry, a symbolic and universal medium, as a bridge for understanding."

## Attitude to others

TORA TODAY / Pinchas H. Peli

There is a reverse effect to suffering. It hardens one and makes one insensitive to the suffering of others.

There is also the element of the "slave become king" who is among the most despicable of characters in the Bible (*Proverbs 30:22*) as well as in human life. Why is it, then, that almost every time the Tora warns us regarding the treatment of strangers — it reminds us that we too were strangers?

Jewish commentators throughout the ages offer different answers to this question. Let us look at some of them.

In a way, the Bible itself, in several places offers further insight into this reason of our being strangers ourselves for the way we must treat other strangers. Take, for instance, Exodus 23:9: "And a stranger shalt thou not oppress, for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Here, when dealing with the warning against oppressing, or simply, putting pressure on the stranger, the Tora adds to the usual rationale "because you were strangers," also the words "for you know the heart of the stranger."

YOU ARE EXPECTED to demonstrate compassion towards the stranger, out of empathy which stems from your own personal experience. Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Itzhaki 1040-1105), the classical commentator of the Tora, adds in his usual laconic but mild way: "You know the heart of the stranger — you know how hard it is for him when he is being pressed. One is not allowed, of course, to oppress or put pressure on any-

one, but from one's past experience one should know how hard it is for the stranger to be pressed: What may be "normal" to other people, appears oppressive and painful to the stranger. It is not enough to treat the stranger in the same way as other citizens; one must bend over backwards, and show particular consideration for the stranger, because he is particularly sensitive and prone to be hurt.

Abraham Ibn Ezra (1093-1167), the famous medieval poet and Bible commentator, points to the fact that the stranger usually appears in the company of the widow and the orphan, as we are warned against mistreating all helpless, defenceless and voiceless elements in the society. These people often find themselves in a position where they cry for help — but there is no one there to hear them. Yet, this seems so only to the outside onlooker; in fact, their voice is not lost. "For if you afflict them, if they cry unto me, I will surely hear their voice" (Ex. 22:22).

It is a mistake to think that those distressed people are alone, that their cry is lost. They are not alone, for God is with them. He also hears and responds to their cry. This is substantiated in the lines: "You were strangers in the land of Egypt," and look, you were not lost, because God heard you and saved you. So, beware of the way you treat the stranger, because their cry is heard, as well as yours.

Ibn Ezra furthermore points to the stylistic change in the injunction against the mistreatment of the powerless in Exodus (22:2) from the singular to the plural. It is to tell us that if one witnesses the oppression of the stranger or the poor, or knows of it, and keeps quiet about it, one becomes by one's very silence, an accomplice to the crime, even though having had no active part in it. This person too will be punished along with the oppressors. Ibn Ezra is more extreme on this issue than the famous moral activist Rabbi

Abraham Joshua Heschel, when he said that "in a free society, some are guilty — all are responsible."

NACHMANIDES (RAMBAN — Rabbi Moshe Ben Nachman, 1194-1270) carries this point further to explain the rationale of "because you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Why, says Ramban, does one think that he might discriminate against the stranger and oppress him? Because he feels that he is in command of power which the stranger does not have. The Tora reminds us that in our history we saw more than once how the wheel could turn. The one who's powerless now, could very easily get to power. Proof of this is you were strangers in the land of Egypt, and look at you now. It is therefore, not only kind and noble to treat the stranger with justice, it is also desirable out of sheer political pragmatic expediency.

The proper treatment of the stranger that is required of us in the Bible does not remain in the realm of lofty ideals or lip-service for human rights in general. It is spelled out over and over again, in concrete terms. It must be expressed in equality in law and justice (Lev. 24:16), in equal working conditions and equal pay for labour (Deut. 24:14), equal share in welfare support (Lev. 25:35), and above all in respect and love. This last requirement, love, being the hardest, is repeated several times, and reaches its peak in the Code of Holiness (Lev. 19:34): "And if a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger... shall be unto you as the home-born among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God."

Love him like yourself, could very well mean, love him because he is like yourself. He is a human being with feelings and sentiments and the right to live with you in dignity. The conclusive close, "I am the Lord your God" is said in the plural: *ani hashem elohi-khem*. Why? Rashi says: I am your God. I am his God. As was said (A.J. Heschel): "God is either the Father of all man, or of no man."

Ekev (*Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25*), is the portion of the Bible read on Saturday August 18. Rabbi Peli is Professor of Jewish Thought and Literature at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

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6:56 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.  
6:57 p.m.

**ENDS**  
8:00 p.m.  
8:02 p.m.  
8:02 p.m.  
7:57 p.m.  
7:58 p.m.

Tora Portion: Ekev

## JERUSALEM

**JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE**, Friday, Mincha 6:40; Ma'ariv 6:55; Shabbat Shahrat 8:00; Mincha 7:40; Ma'ariv 7:55; Cantor Natfali Horvitz, and the Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir, under the direction of Eli Jaffe.

**YESHURUN CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE**, Friday, Mincha 7:10; Shabbat Shahrat 8:10; Mincha 7:40; Ma'ariv 7:55; Cantor Natfali Horvitz, and the Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir, under the direction of Eli Jaffe.

**WORLD COUNCIL OF SYNAGOGUES**, Conventual, 4 Agmon, Friday, Mincha 6:40; Shahrat 8:30; Dvar Torah: Rabbi Dr. Yosef Green-Hazan; Don Kaplan.

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**Har-El Synagogue (Progressive)**, 16 Shmuel Hamegal, Tel. 02-233441, Friday, 6:30 p.m. Shabbat morning 9:30 a.m. Rabbi Tova Ben-Horin.

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**Tel Aviv:** (day) Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 222389; Aviv Afeka, Ramat Aviv Gimel, 427108; (evening) Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 222389; Brugh, 38 King George, 283731.

**Petah-Tikva:** Kupat Holim Chai, Haim Ozer, 905271.











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## HAMMER

(Continued from Page One)

might be a secret ballot by all the Knesset members participating in the unity coalition.

He acknowledged that another problem with his scenario was how to ensure that the party whose leader served first as premier did not bolt the unity government once that first period of premiership was up. Hammer suggested that if that happened "small parties like NRP" might "switch" the ascending party by joining with the aggrieved party to form a narrow government.

He said it was "not huzpa for the NRP, with its four seats, to be turning the big parties to form a unity government, or to threaten retaliation if one of them later bolts" — since the NRP was demonstrably not feathering its own nest by acting in this way. There would clearly be much richer pickings for his party — ministries and power aplenty — if it were to succumb to the urgent wooting of either of the two big blocs and enter into a narrow coalition right now.

But Hammer cited the national interest, and the NRP's long-term chances of recovery, as factors outweighing the short-term calculation of coalition profitability.

"We've been an achievement-oriented party long enough," he said, "and we have achieved a great deal. But the public — our public — no longer appreciates that. People are looking for credibility, values, ideology, leadership."

Hammer was firm in his rejection of a narrow government, whatever its complexion. He said he would urge his party policy-making forum to adopt a formal resolution to this effect. But he stepped short of saying "never."

"If in two months the country is seething, the public are briding at the prospect of new elections, one of the big parties has agreed to unity terms and the other is refusing — then I would have to think again."

"In saying this, I am, I suppose, exerting pressure on the big parties: they shouldn't think they've got forever. We want to give them as much time as they need, as much time as it takes."

"If the unity talks break down and neither — or both — are at fault?"

"Then," Hammer said, "I would expect my party not to be deterred by the spectre of elections. But things can change till then. I can't say, I won't say — indeed I oughtn't to say — what I would decide in that circumstance."

## ARENS RAPS

(Continued from Page One)

report immediately but TV insisted it was correct.

Arens also criticized Kol Yisrael, saying it had misquoted him in a report on an address he made to Tel Aviv advocates. According to the radio report, Arens said the IDF would remain in Lebanon as long as there is no "solid central government" — "I never said such a thing," Arens protested yesterday.

The defence minister also rapped Kol Yisrael for reporting on Saturday that IDF officers in Lebanon had presented a plan for a withdrawal within two months while still ensuring Galilee's security.

"One need not say in this forum that there is no basis to this item," he said. But the IDF spokesman's response on Saturday was more equivocal, only expressing "surprise" at the report.

Arens went on to attack a report which — according to his account — the IDF would "correct the election results so that next time they will be different." He declared, "Such reports undermine the foundations of democracy, undermine the foundations of the state."

But well-informed sources confirmed that the Chief Education Officer had decided to give soldiers courses in democracy and par-

Hammer said he spoke "for myself, not for the NRP. Dr. Burg (interior and religious affairs minister) is the leader of the party."

Relations between the two men are fairly harmonious. Yet privately Hammer is disparaging about the 75-year-old Burg and his enjoyment of high office.

In the NRP, and indeed in the Likud, too, there is a distinct feeling that Burg would like to throw his lot in with the Likud again — unless he is called upon to become prime minister of a unity government.

But there are power forces arrayed against him in his own party. His longtime henchman at the helm of the Laminifac, Rafael Ben-Natan, may fight a move to realign with the Likud. According to some rumours, he has threatened to make Abraham Melamed a minister in place of Burg if Burg insists on leading the party back into the bosom of the Likud.

Hammer's colleague in the leadership of the Young Guard faction, Dr. Yehuda Ben-Meir, is also anxious to prevent a return to Likud.

The education minister declines to discuss these internal pressures publicly. But he does not dissociate himself from the concerns and reservations that Ben-Meir has expressed regarding the Likud and the other parties of the right — their near-exclusive focus on territory, and their handling of the Lebanon war and the economy.

But Hammer stressed in the interview that he did not subscribe to the theory that his party has lost two thirds of its strength because of its partnership with the parties of the right. "It happened simultaneously with that partnership — but not because of that partnership," Hammer asserted. "The real causes were our own defects."

Hammer explained the powerful attraction of remaining in partnership with the Likud. "They always respected us and dealt decently with us. Perhaps it was just political good sense on their part, or perhaps a more basic affinity to our values."

But look at (the appointment of Dr. Moshe Mandelbaum as governor of the Bank of Israel); (Dr. Yaacov) Ne'eman as director-general (of the Finance Ministry under Yigael Hurvitz). Such things never happened when we were in coalitions with Labour."

Hammer also referred to "hostility towards religion in certain Alignment circles... we don't find that in the Likud."

## LEVY IS OBSTACLE

(Continued from Page One)

Alignment's four-man team — Peres, Yitzhak Navon, Rabin and Haim Bar-Lev — decided yesterday to continue the negotiations with the Likud. The economic teams will meet again tomorrow, and the foreign-policy teams on Sunday. The party's ad hoc negotiating bureau, which numbers some 20 persons, yesterday received detailed reports on the series of negotiations from the negotiating teams.

Peres yesterday divulged to his colleagues on the negotiating team what he had written on the note he inserted between the stones of the Western Wall after President Herzog called on him to establish a government. "May You give us one heart," the note said, a request based on a passage in the book of Ezekiel. Peres divulged this during a modest surprise party his colleagues gave him on his 61st birthday. It is reported.

Today's economic session will be a continuation of Wednesday's discussion, Ya'acobi said yesterday. He said he doubted that the Likud would present proposals of its own, and that it preferred to continue to debate those of the Alignment. Ya'acobi added that it was possible that the Likud would again try to enlist the Alignment's participation in a practical economic programme before the establishment of the next government. The Alignment would reject this attempt, he said.

Regarding the foreign-policy negotiations, Alignment sources said yesterday that the Likud "doesn't want to give up an inch, and doesn't want peace with Jordan." Levy, for his part, said that the Alignment's proposals posed a "danger to Israel."

The main points of disagreement between the two sides concern settlement policy and the peace process with Jordan. The Alignment has proposed that a two-thirds majority of the cabinet be necessary to establish new settlements. The Likud has countered that the establishment of new settlements "require the agreement of both sides," without any majority specified.

## MAJOR COVER-UP

(Continued from Page One)

keeping maneuver, the accountant-general deposited these sums in its own account at the Bank of Israel. According to standard statistical definitions the commercial banks' deposits of foreign currency are not counted as reserves, but those of the accountant-general are.

Thus, by a circular bookkeeping exercise the Treasury and the Bank of Israel were able to show that the reserves had dropped by "only" \$351m. last month.

Economic observers in Jerusalem yesterday pointed out that during June the authorities took a large loan abroad to cover that month's possible large drop in foreign-currency reserves. Figures published earlier this month showed that during June the public purchased some \$295m. worth of foreign currency.

If the figures for June and July are added, it would appear that the two-month drop in the reserves would have been close to \$1 billion — one third of the total reserves — had cover-up tactics not been used.

The observers added that during July the government preferred not to borrow to cover the fall reserves. This was probably caused by fear that commercial banks abroad will demand larger interest rates on loans to Israel.

Another possible reason for the government's step is the feeling among senior officials and politicians that the U.S. may demand a "sound economic programme" from Israel before granting any short-term credits or before recommending that U.S. grant such loans.

Alignment negotiators said last night that the formula arrived at with the National Religious Party yesterday could provide the basis for a breakthrough with the Likud as well. The three-part formula provides for continued settlement in agreed areas, and the strengthening of all existing settlements. (See separate story.)

On Jordan, the Alignment proposed calling for negotiations without preconditions. This strategy, Bar-Lev said yesterday, would ensure that negotiations could begin, without attempting to tie Jordan from the start to the Camp David agreement, to which it was not a party.

The Likud position is that negotiations without preconditions are tantamount to showing a willingness "to give up everything, including Jerusalem." Levy told Kol Yisrael yesterday. The Likud would accept negotiations with Jordan only on the basis of Camp David, he said.

No date has been set for the private meeting between Peres and Shamir, during which the question of the premiership is due to be discussed. Labour sources have made it clear that the idea of rotating the premiership, as proposed by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer and others, was a non-starter as far as they were concerned.

MK Abba Eban, a member of the foreign-policy negotiating team, yesterday described the rotation proposal as "grotesque" and the political team of the United Kibbutz Movement rejected it out of hand. Party sources described Rabin's reported willingness to consider rotation as "tactics only."

At a meeting of the UKM's political team yesterday, it was decided to support efforts to establish a national unity government, while stressing that efforts towards forming a narrow government should also continue. The kibbutz body called on Mapam and its Kibbutz Artzi movement to give their support to the coalition efforts.

The Mapam Young Guard, for its part, issued a statement opposing the party's participation in a national unity government.

(Continued from Page One)

Wolf Blitzer adds from Washington: U.S. officials yesterday said the drop in Israel's reserves last month was actually more than twice the official \$350m. figure.

Asked about a Jerusalem Post report of an actual \$670 million drop in American official reserves, "I can only tell you that it was more than that."

The U.S. government has known for several days that the Bank of Israel and the Finance Ministry used some complicated accounting procedures to announce a drop of "only" \$350m.

In addition U.S. officials said, the Israeli government had managed to obtain several short-term commercial loans from largely American banks to help cover up the larger losses.

"We've been waiting for the story to break," an American source said. U.S. officials flatly denied that the U.S. government — in any capacity — had interfered in Israel's attempt to obtain additional short-term loans in order to shore up its worsening foreign-exchange position. They also denied that Secretary of State George Shultz had been involved behind the scenes in any way.

They said Israel was still capable of obtaining commercial loans, although it was having more difficulty doing so. Major U.S. banks, they said, are forcing Israel to pay higher interest rates for short-term credit. "Israel can still borrow but only under tighter conditions," a U.S. official said.

The Americans said the lower Bank of Israel figure released was designed largely to placate the Israeli public.

## Focus

Friday, August 17, 1984  
The Jerusalem Post Page Thirteen

## Voice of hate

By RON JOURARD/Special to The Jerusalem Post

A HEBREW RADIO programme, remarking last year upon the failure of Israeli security forces to ferret out the attackers on the Islamic College of Hebron, condemned the government for supporting right-wing terror. After the alleged culprits were rounded up recently, the same programme quoted "observers" who noted that the arrests were aimed at "whitewashing" the Likud government, which it said "carries out its own policy of anti-Arab terror."

Whatever the source of this one-track commentary, it smacks of an anti-Israeli attitude and a disregard for the truth.

In a nutshell, those are the hallmarks of a jarring, yet subtle, half-hour evening programme called Radio Peace and Progress (RPP). Its offices are located — no, not in an enemy Arab state — but thousands of kilometres away. Behind the Iron Curtain, in Moscow.

RPP is a semi-official broadcast, purported to be owned and operated by the "Soviet people's organizations," and is part of the Soviet Union's worldwide propaganda drive against the West.

The station broadcasts in nine other languages — an English and Arabic programme are also beamed to the Middle East — and until last year it was also transmitted here in Yiddish. The Hebrew and Yiddish programmes were started in the late 1960s.

One function of RPP, as of other Soviet media, is to publicize the official line on foreign and domestic affairs. But RPP's semi-official status sets it apart from the clearly official organs such as Radio Moscow and Pravda, says Galia Golan, Darwin professor of Soviet and East European studies at the Hebrew University and author of *The Soviet Union and the PLO*. "Though 90 per cent of the content is repeated elsewhere in the Soviet media, RPP will say things that the Soviets don't want to give official backing to," she says.

Mikhail Agursky, a member of the Soviet and East European Research Centre at the Hebrew University, sees an insidious side to the programme: it could be used, he says, secretly to convey information to communist agents or even terrorists. Golan agrees, recalling that the BBC was similarly used by Britain in World War II.

These days, RPP in Hebrew can be picked up at 7.30 p.m. on 1170 AM and several shortwave frequencies (15320, 12075, 7440 and 7305 kilohertz). In April and October, the time slot frequencies are adjusted because of seasonal changes in radio propagation conditions.

Broadcasting 365 days a year — even on the eve of Yom Kippur — the programme opens with a wide-ranging newscast followed by three or four short, easily digestible commentaries on local and world issues.

RPP in Hebrew is run by a team of four: a male and female announcer and two programme directors who are versed in Middle East affairs. None are Jewish, according to Rakah spokesman Uzi Burstein, who has met the staff on several visits to Moscow.

THE MALE announcer is Soviet-born Dmitri Prekoffev. Though he has never lived in Israel, his Hebrew is excellent and almost accentless. His interest in Hebrew — he studied the language and literature at Moscow University — was sparked by his father's scholarly pursuit of ancient Semitic languages.

When an Israeli delegation made up of Knesset Members Shulamit Aloni and Aharon Harel Burstein and several others visited the Soviet Union last year, Prekoffev was their translator. Burstein says the group was "amazed" at how much Prekoffev knew about Hebrew literature. According to Burstein, he is also "thoroughly familiar" with Hebrew slang.

The second announcer is Nina Fiminitzev. Born in Pithiviers to an immigrant family of Judaizers — heretical Russian Orthodox Christians who observe Jewish ritual and doctrine — she returned with her parents to the Soviet Union at the end of the 1950s. She also works at

Moscow's Institute for Oriental Studies.

Prekoffev, who stays abreast of Israeli affairs by monitoring the Israeli press, decides on programme content, in consultation with the RPP's directors. (Much of the commentary and news that does not pertain to Israel is simply translated from radio material in other languages.) The trio, however, has little latitude for originality; they operate under the constraints of official guidelines laid down by the International Information Department (IID) of the CPSU Central Committee. The IID is in turn controlled by the Politburo, which approves the major themes of Soviet propaganda.

Just about anyone of stature can get a mention if he or she has something to say that can be fitted into a condemnation of Israel or the U.S. — or that can be construed as complimentary towards the Soviet Union. Former IDF intelligence chief Yehoshua Saguy was cited in a diatribe against Israel's involvement in Lebanon, and Shulamit Aloni quoted during her Moscow visit praising the Soviet people's longing for peace.

A KREMLINOLOGIST living in Israel, who asked not to be identified, notes that much of the technique employed by the Soviet propagandist is based on the legacy of Paul Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi minister of propaganda, who mastered every contemporary device for duping the public. It was he, for example, who refined the technique of interlacing accepted facts and information attributed to well-known and respected sources and using these to cloak his deceptions.

The following example illustrates the use of this technique: "According to Central Bureau of Statistics figures, more than 15,000 people emigrated from Israel over the last year. This is threatening the government's plans for increased settlement in the occupied territories and the IDF's fighting capacity. Israeli authorities are therefore trying to persuade, tempt and even harass those who want to leave. Thus, for example, they have doubled the travel tax." This was broadcast last September — before the tax was doubled.

In addition to protesting Moscow's desire for peace and declaring recognition of Israel, the programme also touts Soviet domestic achievements.

Indeed, RPP in Hebrew almost always concludes with a commentary on such matters as Soviet educational and scientific progress, economic development and the alleged Soviet solution to the "nationality problem" (hence reference to the "success" of the Jewish autonomous region in Birobidzhan).

The boasting and the boozing drone on, Stock themes, rehashed with numbing regularity, are made even more tiresome by the repetition of certain news items and commentaries for a week or more after being introduced. However, far from being a sign of clumsiness, this reflects the Goebbelian axiom that if a lie is reiterated often enough, people will start to believe it.

According to Agursky, RPP preaches to the converted — mostly Rakah's Jewish supporters (since the Arabs will tune in to RPP in Arabic). Burstein says the audience includes many left-wing kibbutzniks who are curious to hear the Soviet Union's views. But the impact of the programme in Israel generally is negligible — it is not well-known, and has few listeners.

At least one listener who never misses a show is the U.S. government, which monitors RPP in Hebrew as part of a worldwide effort to track Soviet propaganda trends. Our own Foreign Ministry gets reports on the programme from the BBC.

Israel's strong affinity with the West and the Soviet Union's domestic policy of anti-Semitism and its close ties with our country's arch-enemies, Syria and the PLO, make Israel an unlikely client of hammer-and-sickle propaganda.

Drawing a line between citizen and government, RPP warns that Jerusalem's Zionists and "pro-imperialist" policy endangers not only the Arabs but the "Israeli people" itself. After the Lebanon war, it asserts, the Israelis are "unwilling to swallow it again."

One of the key aims of RPP in Hebrew is to get Israelis to take a more positive attitude towards the Soviet Union and predispose them to accept a Soviet role in Middle East peace negotiations, says the Hebrew University's Golan. To this end, it emphasizes that the Soviet Union recognizes Israel — within its 1967 borders — and supports its existence in an atmosphere of peace and security.

To woo the Jewish listener, the programme rails against the Nazis and neo-Nazis, celebrates the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and other resistance during World War II and expresses sorrow for the victims of Palestinian terror.

To offset the strident anti-government tirade, there are professions of friendship for the "people" of Israel and warm greetings at the Jewish New Year and on May Day for the country's "labourers" and



Shulamit Aloni... Praising the Soviet people's longing for peace.

ISRAEL IS regularly condemned for being a partner to U.S. "military adventures" and for supplying arms to U.S.-supported regimes in Central America and elsewhere that are variously described as "corrupt," "fascist" and "despotic."

In the Middle East, Israel is depicted as a "U.S. lackey" — paying for U.S. military aid with "servility" and furthering U.S. "imperialist" plots to "subject the region to neo-colonialism."



Galia Golan... "RPP will say things Soviets don't want to give official backing to."

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## THE JERUSALEM POST

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### Furnished Flats

For tourists and locals, for summer months, furnished flats, 04-532643, 04-668227.

Neve Shalom, 2 1/2, phone, for couple only, \$180, Tel. 226343, 224633.

Western Carmel, 2 1/2 furnished, phone, balcony, view, 243902.

Haifa, Ramat Ramat, 2 + hall, furnished, phone, 02-351679.

### Purchase Sale

Carmel, 2 + cinema, 3rd floor, balcony, storeroom, 04-666291, 04-720943.

### Furniture

Buy furniture, refrigerators, liquidators, at high prices! 04-666597, 04-539285.

### Musical Instruments

More and More English piano, excellent condition, 04-344938, after 18.00.

Daniel piano, 40% discount for new immigrants! For details, Abileh, 6 Hanevrim.

### Personnel

### Situations Vacant

Personnel with technical background required for photocopy machine operation, Neve Shalom, 4-6 hours per day, POB 3298, Ramat Gan 52132.

### Business

Established pest control company requires active partner. POB 1357, Haifa.

Kiryat area, shops and industrial buildings for rent and sale. Tel. 04-708566.

### Investment

Experienced engineer for construction project supervision. For interview, 02-234201.

One ad reaches everyone in the country! Hachach Hachadash.

### Plots

Private, seeking small two-family plot or half-plot in Rehavia, preferably level, no agents. Tel. 04-257952.

### Negev

### Villas & Houses

Penthouse, 120 built, 5 rooms + 80 balconies, 057-74631.

To let, spacious house, Neve Naf, phone, partially furnished, 02-69749.

### Flats for Sale

Arad centre, 4, frontal, \$50,000, 057-95678.

### 3-3 1/2 ROOMS

Arad, 3 large, 2nd floor, view, immediate, 02-51436, 02-33759.

### Ashdod

### Flats for Sale

Ben Elimez, Dolei Quarter, bargain for sale, 4 1/2, 7th floor, Home, 055-24842, work, 055-34777.

### Netanya

### 2-2 1/2 ROOMS

For sale, 2, centre, for lawyer's or doctor's office, 02-23621.

### 3-3 1/2 ROOMS

Netanya, 3 large, phone, 053-28093.







## Free shares ahead as bonds fall

TEL AVIV. — It would appear that a monthly price index of 12.4 per cent is not enough for the bond market, since the publication of the July index on Wednesday was followed by weakness in index-linked bonds yesterday. The general bond index fell by 0.64 per cent, and the volume in the bond market shrank to less than IS\$500 million, the lowest figure in some time.

One can only regard the reaction of the bond market with amazement — unless its real meaning is that the crisis of confidence in government obligations is as acute as ever. The statistics are as follows:

The consumer price index of July, which measures average July prices, brought the rate of increase since the beginning of the year to 15.0 per cent. In addition, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced that prices by the end of July were 6 to 6.5 per cent higher than the average level for the month, and that at least a further 3 per cent came at the beginning of August. Thus almost 10 per cent can be added on for certain and, according to preliminary estimates, the August figure will come to 15 per cent or more.

In other words the price level today is at least 275-280, on the basis of December 31, 1983=100. The bond index, however, stands at only 263 — less than the true value. And what of expectations of increasing inflation in the coming months.

In the share market the trend was once again decidedly upward. The "arrangement" sector, in its bond guise, suffered from the weakness in the bond market, and was slightly lower, but the non-bond index gained almost 2 per cent.

Volume increased substantially to IS\$800m., more than in bonds — but IS\$400m. of this was accounted for by

### Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By PINHAS LANDAU

the bank shares, which saw heavy selling absorbed with little or no change in price.

The main positive indicator was the advance/decline ratio, which reached over four to one, and sharp advances outnumbered large declines by an even greater margin. These breadth statistics have been improving from day to day, and would be cause for heady optimism — if only they were backed by larger volumes. But although the opening demand is often large, the bids fade as the price moves up, as there is no willingness to chase prices higher.

Announcements:  
Elron Electronic Industries re-

ported its results for the April-June quarter. The figures were based on a historical shekel base without adjustment to inflation. Instead, they were adjusted to a constant dollar base. Operating profit reached IS\$788m., up from an equivalent IS\$590m. last year, and capital gains from sale of shares by a subsidiary brought in another IS\$201m., so that the total rise was 40 per cent compared to 1983. This gave a per share profit of IS\$92m., or \$0.33 (profits of \$3.5m.).

Total sales of all the companies subsidiaries and affiliates came to \$82m., up from \$57m. in the first quarter of the previous year.

The main contributors to the company's profits were Elbit, which showed a significant growth in profitability, and Fibronics and Optrotech, while Elscint produced only a very small profit in the quarter.

## Banks offer bonus interest in dollar-linked savings plans

TEL AVIV. — Bank Hapoalim's offer of an extra 1.5 to 2 per cent bonus on its dollar-linked savings schemes has triggered a quick response from Bank Discount, and other banks are likely to be drawn in soon.

Since the beginning of this month Hapoalim has been giving special lower rates for the dollar price on which the linkage is based for depositors joining its Matmon Tzadim Dollar and Matmon Dollar Meded schemes. The former is linked only to the dollar, and receives a higher rate of interest than the latter, which

is linked to either the dollar or the index, at the choice of the saver at the time of withdrawal.

For example, depositors in the week beginning August 2 received a base rate for calculating the linkage to the dollar of IS\$280.95, compared to the official representative rate of IS\$285.95 on August 2. This increases the yield on the deposit by 1.78 per cent. The offer is valid only for deposits in excess of IS\$100,000, and is for a limited period.

Bank Discount has reacted by offering for one week only, starting yesterday and ending next Wednesday, a 2 per cent bonus on deposits to its Itron Tzadim Dollar and Itron Dollar Meded schemes. In practice, for example, the addition of \$20 to a deposit of the shekel equivalent of \$1,000 comes to the same as charging 2 per cent less for the dollar — it simply gives more dollars for the given quantity of shekels.

It may be expected that if these offers produce a positive response from the public they will be extended in one form or another. Banking sources note that the level of saving in the various medium-term schemes on offer, particularly those offering linkage to the dollar, has been high in recent months. The public has large sums of money on its hands, and not all of it is being spent. Saving is mostly directed to dollar-linked forms, and the superior tax-free interest on the multi-year savings schemes is competing successfully for part of the excess funds with Patam accounts, where the interest is taxed, and with "black" dollars, which earn no interest at all.

It should be noted that the 2 per cent bonus on offer is an "up-front" addition, and its value is a function of the time-span for which the deposit is held. The additional yield in per annum terms will be 1.15 per cent after 2 years, falling to 0.59 per cent for a deposit held for six years.

## Bank of Israel exchange rates

August 16, 1984	IS
U.S. dollar	305.55
British sterling	404.81
German mark	106.87
French franc	34.825
Dutch guilder	94.883
Swiss franc	127.62
Swedish krona	36.811
Norwegian krona	37.090
Danish krona	29.309
Finnish mark	50.779
Canadian dollar	234.54
Australian dollar	257.88
South African rand	199.78
Belgian franc (10)	52.879
Austrian schilling (10)	152.22
Italian lire (1000)	173.15
Japanese yen (100)	126.73
Irish pound	329.23
Spanish peseta (100)	187.16
Jordanian dinar	788.32
Lebanese lira	49.080
Egyptian pound	258.19

Commercial Banks	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
(not part of "arrangement")				
OHH	2800	10	+100	+3.7
Maritime	1245	235	+113	+9.1
N. American	1821	16	+75	+4.1
N. American	1322	66	+39	+3.0
N. Amer. op	2251	78	+81	+3.6
Danot	273	b.o.l.	+13	+5.0
Danco	71	1077	n.c.	
Danco	178	25	-16	-8.2
Fib	395	1202	+11	+2.9
FIBI	322	416	n.c.	

Commercial Banks	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
(part of "arrangement")				
IDB	10920	788	n.c.	
IDB B	11100	20	-150	-1.3
IDB P	70000	34	+300	+0.4
Union	8960	34	+10	+0.1
Discount B	14200	72	+210	+1.5
Discount A	13999	46	n.c.	
Discount B	1690	155	+50	+3.1
Mizrahi	4445	385	+65	+1.5
Mizrahi	4481	1	-45	-1.0
Mizrahi	2080	33	n.c.	

Commercial Banks	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
(part of "arrangement")				
Hapoalim	9450	100	+100	+1.1
Hapoalim	7405	1219	-75	-1.0
Hapoalim	7400	37	-70	-0.9
Hapoalim	28000	8	n.c.	
General	19070	8	n.c.	
General	43600	1	n.c.	
General	18300	1	n.c.	
General	14360	1	+250	+1.8
General	974	4	-6	-0.6
Leumi	4700	3592	n.c.	
Leumi	6000	33	+200	+3.1
Leumi	1853	90	+53	+2.9
Leumi	6520	1	+20	+3.1
Finance Trade	3499	10	+104	+3.1

Mortgage Banks	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Gen. Mortgage	1070	31	n.c.	
Gen. Mortgage	1270	15	-1	-0.1
Gen. Mortgage	1280	1	n.c.	
Carmel	845	28	n.c.	
Carmel	416	36	+12	+3.0
Leumi	771	19	+10	+1.3
Leumi	372	10	+12	+3.3
Leumi	1303	6	n.c.	
Leumi	710	20	-10	-1.4
Leumi	1040	1	n.c.	
Leumi	865	50	+10	+1.2
Leumi	915	1	n.c.	
Leumi	543	101	+6	+1.1
Leumi	149	256	+1	+0.7
Leumi	152	100	+11	+8.2
Leumi	79	256	+5	+6.8
Leumi	384	83	+10	+2.7

Financial Institutions	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Sharon	75	723	+1	+1.4
Sharon	105	256	n.c.	
Sharon	14500	1	n.c.	
Sharon	26000	1	n.c.	
Sharon	1122	33	-10	-0.9
Sharon	1133	1	n.c.	
Sharon	1155	135	n.c.	
Sharon	2107	6	+40	+1.9
Sharon	527	50	+48	+10.0
Sharon	1400	5	+18	+1.3
Sharon	1490	1	n.c.	
Sharon	269	34	-27	-9.1
Sharon	115	50	+5	+4.6
Sharon	685	140	+5	+0.7
Sharon	609	110	+10	+1.7
Sharon	603	1	+2	+0.3
Sharon	435	130	n.c.	
Sharon	446	30	+41	+10.1
Sharon	340	114	n.c.	
Sharon	185	125	+10	+5.7

Insurance	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Arche	446	192	+10	+2.3
Arche	301	69	+17	+6.0
Arche	5450	1	+100	+1.9
Arche	346	16	+16	+4.9
Arche	147	92	-20	-13.6
Arche	650	1	n.c.	
Arche	166	1	+6	+3.8
Arche	273	8	n.c.	
Arche	118	44	n.c.	
Arche	1115	135	n.c.	
Arche	2107	6	+40	+1.9
Arche	527	50	+48	+10.0
Arche	1400	5	+18	+1.3
Arche	1490	1	n.c.	
Arche	269	34	-27	-9.1
Arche	115	50	+5	+4.6
Arche	685	140	+5	+0.7
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Arche	603	1	+2	+0.3
Arche	435	130	n.c.	
Arche	446	30	+41	+10.1
Arche	340	114	n.c.	
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Trade & Services	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Inter-Gamma	355	59	n.c.	
Inter-Gamma	132	182	n.c.	
Inter-Gamma	51	284	+5	+10.9
Inter-Gamma	638	9	+58	+9.0
Inter-Gamma	301	11	+6	+2.0
Inter-Gamma	160	116	+10	+6.3
Inter-Gamma	116	1	+3	+2.7
Inter-Gamma	29	332	+1	+3.6
Inter-Gamma	309	71	+12	+4.0
Inter-Gamma	20	15	+3	+1.5
Inter-Gamma	3058	2	n.c.	
Inter-Gamma	708	144	+60	+9.3
Inter-Gamma	1500	87	+60	+4.2
Inter-Gamma	650	1382	n.c.	

Services	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Delek	2270	109	n.c.	
Delek	1370	1	+10	+0.7
Delek	940	1	+10	+1.1
Delek	1312	42	+99	+7.6
Delek	690	54	+35	+5.3
Delek	17000	1	n.c.	
Delek	9090	2	+450	+5.2
Delek	671	4	+61	+10.0
Delek	449	90	n.c.	
Delek	229	100	+1	+0.4
Delek	283	10	-2	-0.7
Delek	152	12	-3	-1.9
Delek	149	40	-2	-1.3
Delek	353	30	-28	-7.9
Delek	190	25	-27	-12.4
Delek	2166	b.o.l.	+103	+5.0
Delek	2166	b.o.l.	+36	+1.7

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Sharon	340	114	n.c.	
Sharon	185	125	+10	+5.7

+10	+2.3	Levinstein 1
+17	+6.0	Levinstein 5
+100	+1.9	Levinstein op
+16	+4.9	Lifschitz 1
-3	-2.0	Lifschitz 5
		Lifschitz op
+6	+3.8	Neot Aviv
n.c.		Sagor Prop
n.c.		Sagor Hold 1
n.c.		Sagor Hold 3
		Sofel Bonet
+40	+1.9	Sahaf 1
+68	+10.0	Sahaf 5
+18	+1.3	Sahaf op
		Shafar Ve Selu
		Prutz
-27	-9.1	Cesarsan 0.1
+5	+4.6	Cesarsan 0.5
-5	-5.6	Rubinstein 1
		Rubinstein 5
+10	+1.7	Rogovin 1
+2	+3.0	Rogovin 5
n.c.		Rogovin op
+41	+10.1	Rassco p
n.c.		Rassco r
+10	+5.7	Rassco op



# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Air travel imbroglio

THE DISPUTE between the Ministry of Transport and the charter airline carriers over the regulatory restrictions limiting the right to mix Israeli and non-Israeli passengers originating in Israel at first sight seems like the sort of mixup that is typical of our competing bureaucracies.

But behind the bumbling application of policy there is very definite reason to the Ministry of Transport's insistence on strict limitations on the charter lines' ability to compete with the regular airlines serving Israel, and especially with the national carrier El Al.

With few exceptions, charter flights were not permitted to bring tourists to Israel until 1976. The decision that year to permit charter flights, at first carrying only foreign tourists, was the culmination of a decade and a half long dispute between El Al and the local tourist industry.

The latter, and especially the hoteliers, argued for years that only the introduction of cheaper charter flights could guarantee filling up the burgeoning number of hotels a-building and planned for a golden future.

Eight years later it can safely be said that this argument has been disproved. The charter flights have not brought about the revolution in the tourist industry that the hoteliers predicted. For years now it has proven impossible to break through the one million mark for annual incoming tourism, at a time when competing Mediterranean tourist countries like Greece, Italy and Spain number their tourists in many millions.

Even the unsurpassed million mark is partly fictitious because it includes many thousands of travellers who should not be included in the category of tourists.

The reasons for the failure of the tourist industry are complex. Part have to do with objective difficulties of distance; part with the unrealistic income structures of the Likud years in Israel which has priced a holiday in Israel out of the reach of many middle-income Europeans and Americans; part, undoubtedly, with generalized fears that Israel is a war zone.

Suffice it to say that the introduction of charter flights eight years ago did not justify the hopes invested in them.

The charters did, however, cut into the income of the regular airlines serving Israel. Permitting their economic viability to be endangered even further would run the risk of cutting down regular air service to Israel by the foreign carriers. This could also effect landing rights for El Al, that have always been extended on a reciprocal basis.

Charters have had one other important effect in recent years: they have provided cheaper air fares for Israelis travelling abroad. In fact some of the firms carry many more Israelis than they do incoming tourists.

Cheap charter flights for Israelis were certainly in keeping with the spirit of the give-away Likud-Aridor years. But by the same token they are a minor consideration, and possibly even a negative one in a period of looming economic belt-tightening.

All this does not mean charters to Israel should be abolished. They help keep the regular airlines, especially El Al, on their toes.

But charters must be restricted in keeping with the broader interests of Israel and with the many and, at times, contradictory needs of Israel's aviation and tourism industries.

## Presidential leadership

By ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

PRESIDENT CHAIM HERZOG has already made constitutional history. His refusal to meet with Meir Kahane MK and his manner of designating Shimon Peres as his choice to put together a new government — hopefully, a grand coalition of the two major parliamentary blocs, if not a government of national unity — were ground-breaking in nature.

As Herzog has declared, present circumstances are unprecedented, leading to actions that are also without precedent.

Herzog's role does not end with the choice of a prime minister-designate. Section 11(a)(2) of Fundamental Law: The President of the State provides that "The President of the State shall act towards the establishment of the Government." How he acts is determined by circumstances, not the law.

Presidential initiatives can be expected to expand in order to achieve presidential policy objectives. Even before the adoption of the present law, it appears that presidential intervention had assisted in the achievement of the coalition agreement necessary for the establishment of a new government. One commentator has termed it settled constitutional practice for the president to act as midwife of a new government.

Fashioning a government out of the results of the recent elections, though, may demand a magician, not a midwife. Certainly it demands leadership of the highest order. A political role? Yes, certainly. Indeed, political wisdom of the highest order, directed to objectives that are inherent in the office of the presidency itself, transcending partisan or personal advantage.

As he did in his address at the opening session of the new Knesset, the president has both a right and a duty to give expression to the national consensus.

Within the limitations of his role,

he can also take an active part in creating consensus. He can appeal to the Knesset and to the nation as a whole with the urgency and with the frequency that the situation demands, in pursuance of the legislative mandate to "act towards the establishment of the government."

THERE IS certainly no legal prohibition on presidential consultations with political leaders at any stage of the coalition making process. President Herzog will have to make a careful judgment whether injecting himself into the actual coalition negotiations would serve a useful purpose. However, there is no reason, in law or policy, why such an initiative should be barred in advance.

The powers latent in the office of the presidency quite properly are undefined by law. They are revealed, as circumstances demand, in the pursuance of objectives that the law mandates. It is not a question of some awesome exercise of a sovereign prerogative, but rather the improvisation of means, consistent with the nature of the office, for the performance of the duty imposed on the president by law.

The president should fashion these means, not only with due regard to the limitations of the office he holds, but also with cognizance of its powers. He holds assets in his pursuit of presidential objectives, and he should exploit them. They include the prestige of the presidency and his ability to appeal to the political leadership and, in a proper case, to the nation as a whole.

The exercise of presidential leadership will inevitably be conditioned by its chances of success. The president would certainly be ill-advised to place the prestige of his office in the balance if the chances of a satisfactory outcome appear minimal. However, he need not and should not restrict himself to the purely

## The Friday Dry Bones

JACK, A LAD, RETURNED FROM SELLING THE FAMILY COW...



LOOK MOTHER, I HAVE SOLD THE COW FOR THREE MAGIC BEANS!



MAGIC BEANS INSTEAD OF MONEY? "YES" SAID JACK



TODAY THESE BEANS ARE WORTH ONLY A COUPLE OF SHEKELS, BUT AT 400% INFLATION...



THEY'LL BE WORTH FOUR TIMES THAT IN ONE YEAR!



AFTER TWO YEARS THEY'LL BE SIXTEEN TIMES WHAT THEY'RE WORTH TODAY!!



AND SHE HID THE MAGIC BEANS IN A SECRET PLACE



AND WAS PROUD OF HER SON JACK!



formal function of going through the motions of extending the mandate of his prime minister-designate for an additional 21 days, if present coalition efforts fail to bare fruit and if there are supplementary presidential actions that could further the achievement of Herzog's declared objective.

QUITE PROPERLY, Herzog declared that he would, of course, accept any coalition that gained the confidence of a majority of the Knesset. That should not mean presidential neutrality with regard to the outcome. A narrow coalition would be a misfortune for the nation and a set-back for the president as well.

A restraining factor with regard to the exercise of presidential leadership is the lack of assurance that, even under presidential and public pressure, a broad coalition is an achievable objective. If so, then presidential leadership of another sort may be required, in order to

emphasize that there is continuity in government, even if no new coalition can be fashioned out of the results of the recent elections.

Immediately after the elections, I suggested in these pages that we are now in a transition period, at least until new elections can provide a clear direction. For this transition period, the most appropriate expression may be a lengthy continuation in office of the present transition government.

Such an arrangement would have significant advantages. It would leave the responsibility for the nation's present ills where it belongs — on those who created them. There is little reason why the Labour Alignment should be anxious to be saddled at this time with the onus of carrying out the harsh economic measures that seem inevitable.

Histadrut elections are only a year away. They may roughly coincide with new Knesset elections, as would have been the case originally if Labour had not exhibited such imprudent enthusiasm for an early and, as should now be abundantly obvious, a premature dissolution of the previous Knesset. Why should Labour assume the burden of economic responsibility at this stage?

THE CONTINUATION in office of the present transition government has the additional advantage that it eliminates the need to pay a price, primarily in concessions to the extortion of the religious parties, for a

new coalition government. The present government is already bought and paid for.

This government is the most incompetent that Israel has ever had, except for the one that preceded it. However, it is competent in law. It is even more competent to act than a government depending on the confidence of the Knesset, as it is free of the threat of the defection of coalition partners.

Let Labour observe the necessity for national unity by pledging to support it in any measures reasonably directed at dealing with the present economic crisis, leaving governmental responsibility where it belongs.

Two countries — West Germany and Israel — fashioned their governmental machinery, to a significant extent, with a view to preventing the dangers of the collapse of orderly government that brought about the demise of the Weimar Republic. In both countries, measures were taken to prevent any hiatus in government, leading to authoritarian rule.

In Israel, the provision of a transition government, with the same powers as those of a government enjoying parliamentary theory, but it may be the least costly alternative available.

With election results so indecisive, the legitimacy of any narrow coalition would be little better, and its cost could be prohibitive.

The writer is a political scientist.

### READERS' LETTERS

#### CHRISTIAN SUPPORT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — I am a recipient of the newsletter sent out regularly by the Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, which reports on the activities of that wonderful organization in Israel and its ever increasing activities in so many countries.

I particularly want to congratulate the embassy on the section in its newsletter under the heading "A window on Israel." We could well emulate such excellent hasbara.

Criticism and suspicion of the International Christian Embassy and the spreading of false reports are symptomatic of the moral and spiritual degeneration of bigots who claim to speak in the name of Judaism. Over and over again we should be expressing our deep gratitude for the true friendship, sympathy and understanding and the positive message that the embassy is spreading throughout the world.

HAIFA. DOREEN GUINSBERG

#### MASADA BAR-MITZVAS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — One ought to protest against an incipient custom of bringing American boys and girls to Israel to celebrate their bar or bat-mitzva at Masada. This not only competes with the established custom of doing this at the Western Wall, a religious-national shrine, but deprives a time-honoured, important institution of its religious character.

It is to be regretted that the Ministry of Tourism is associated with such a commercial venture.

RABBI DR. A. CARLEBACH Jerusalem.

#### WOMEN'S ROLE IN JUDAISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — Greer Fay Cashman's interview with Blu Greenberg ("A new breed" — August 12) was most interesting, but left me deeply saddened. Ms. Greenberg has long been a heroine and role model for me, and I thought we shared a concept of Jewish women's obligations as equal but different from men's.

To have her come out now in favour of ordaining women rabbis and adopting many male mitzvot has been a great disappointment to me. Many authorities believe that women are exempt from certain commandments because they achieve spiritual goals with greater ease. This was stated in the 17th

century by the Maharal of Prague. He wrote that the performance of mitzvot is designed to enable human beings to achieve spiritual perfection. Man's aggression is a detriment to his spiritual aspirations and he must work harder and be given extra religious tasks. Thus, the Talmud promises a greater reward to a woman than to a man (Ber. 17a).

Women should work to remedy inequities through organizations such as Mitzvah in Israel, which operates within Halacha and strives for social change without tearing down structures which Judaism erected for our protection.

JERUSALEM. DVORA WATSMAN

#### KOSHER RESTAURANTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — In her article, "Chinese Bower of the Galilee" (August 5), Helga Dudman quotes Stephanie Marks as saying that the restaurant is not kosher because "most visitors prefer it this way." This is indeed a sweeping generalization, and somewhat far from the truth.

I am not religious, but have entertained overseas visitors in kosher restaurants on many occasions. Not only do they not complain, but often they take it for granted that restaurants here will be kosher. Non-Jewish visitors also enjoy an explanation of kashrut, which is "obviously" a part of the local scene in a Jewish country.

Kfar Sava. BARUCH TANAMAN

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### POSTSCRIPTS

**PS** VISITORS to some of San Francisco's myriad Chinese restaurants were surprised recently when they broke open the fortune cookies served at the end of the meal. Though the messages remain the saccharine pap they have always been — for example, "There is a true and sincere friendship between you and your friends" — they are now ground out by a word processor.

**PS** MOUTHS-OF-BABES DEPT. — A reader in Netanya writes that she was recently introduced to a seven-year-old Brooklyn girl who is visiting her grandparents here, and the conversation turned to the U.S. elections.

"I'm voting for Jesse Jackson," said the youngster.

"Why is that?" our correspondent asked.

"Because my daddy said that if Jesse Jackson became president, we'd all move to Israel!"

**PS** PRINCE Louis Napoleon, 70, distantly related to Napoleon Bonaparte, arrived in Egypt recently to follow efforts to salvage relics of Bonaparte's flagship, L'Orient, which was sunk by the British in 1798 in Aboukir Bay.

Since June, a French-funded diving team has been searching the wreck, which may contain bullion, on the Mediterranean floor in the bay near the port city of Alexandria.

L'Orient was one of four vessels sunk by Adm. Horatio Nelson's fleet in the Battle of the Nile.

**PS** ZVI ROSENBLATT, who was charged in 1933 with the murder of Haim Arlosoroff and later acquitted for lack of evidence, died in Tel Aviv recently.

Of the three men accused of murdering Arlosoroff — the other two were Abba Abimeir and Avraham Stavsky — he was the last to die. Last March, Rosenblatt appeared on Israel TV to thank Prime Minister Begin for establishing an inquiry commission into Arlosoroff's murder.

Last May retired Supreme Court justice David Bechor went to Assuta Hospital to interview the extremely ill Rosenblatt on behalf of the Commission.

He claimed that although 50 years had passed since the murder, the accusations against him and his Betar colleagues had always haunted him.

Rosenblatt, a retired Tel Aviv municipality accountant, was born in Chernowitz and arrived here in 1933.

**PS** THE NEGEV Brigade Memorial, a towering sculpture outside Beersheba honouring those who died during the battles for the Negev in the War of Independence, is apparently becoming a favourite with suicides. So far, two women have jumped off the tower to their deaths, and there have been several attempts to do the same.

The owner of the kiosk near the memorial has repeatedly asked for a telephone, but his request has been denied. Thus it is difficult to call an ambulance for help when someone mounts the monument.

L.M.

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